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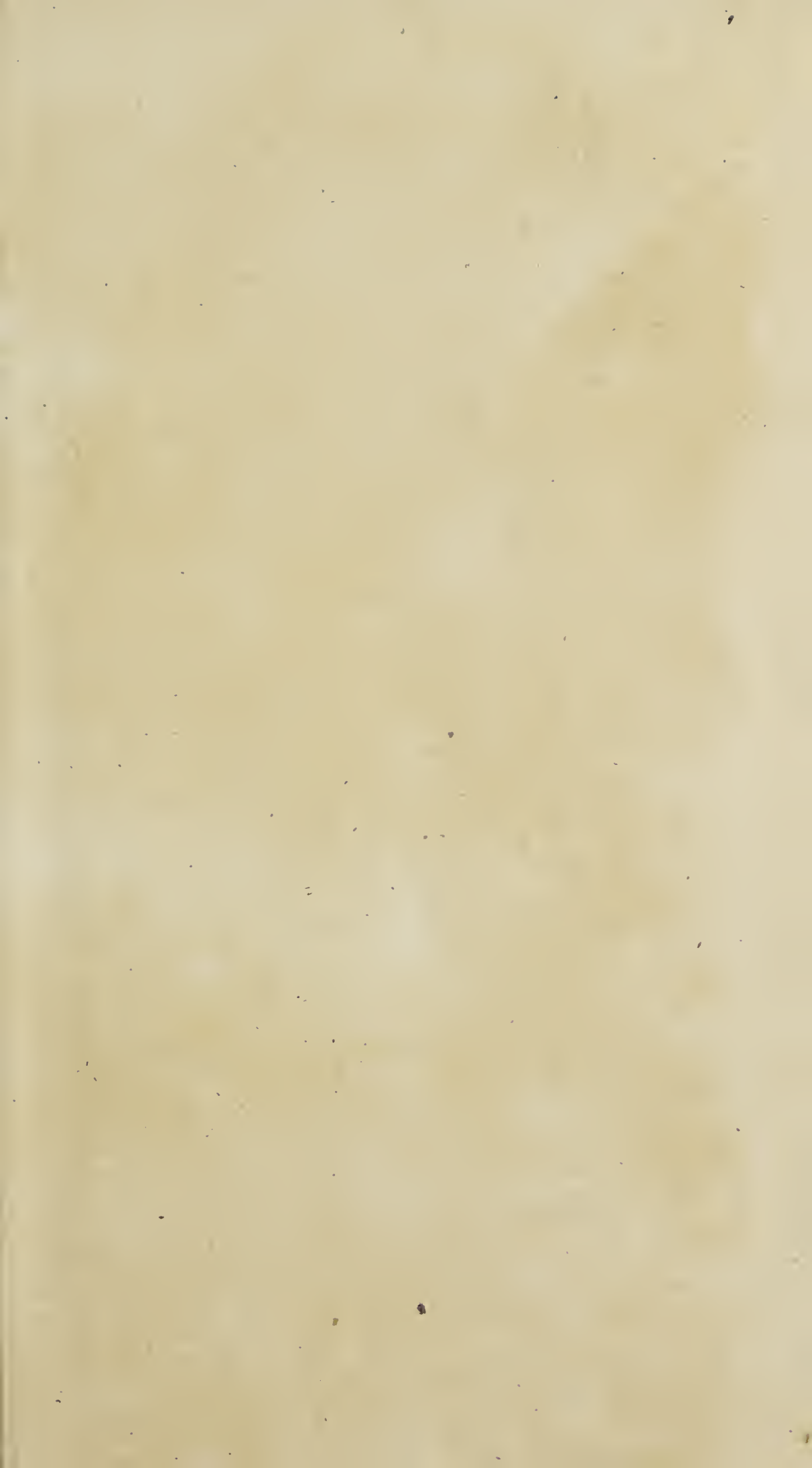


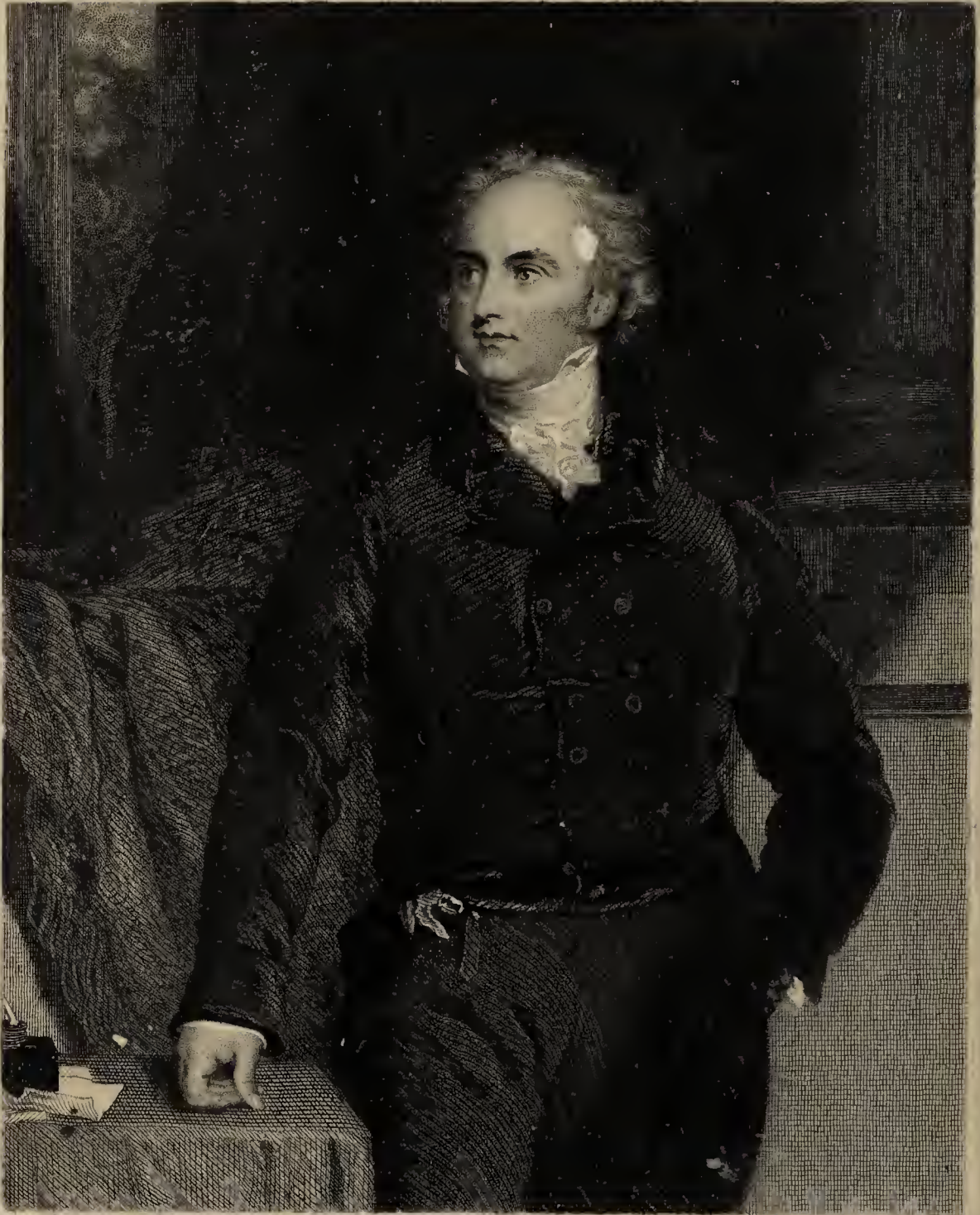
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J. Lawrence, R.A.

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PHYSIC AND PHYSICIANS:

A

Medical Sketch Book,

EXHIBITING

THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIFE

OF THE

MOST CELEBRATED MEDICAL MEN,

OF FORMER DAYS;

WITH

MEMOIRS

OF

EMINENT LIVING LONDON PHYSICIANS AND  
SURGEONS.

BY F. P. WOODWARD  
—  
IN TWO VOLUMES.

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# PHYSIC AND PHYSICIANS.

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## CHAPTER I.

### CHRONICLES OF WARWICK HALL; OR, MEDICAL AND SURGICAL LUMINARIES OF THE OLDEN TIME.

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History of the Old College of Physicians—Sir J. Cutler—Sir Charles Scarborough—Dr. Sermon—Dr. Thomas Willis—Sir W. Petty—Dr. Gideon Harvey—Dr. Mead—An account of his Rise in Physic—Queen Caroline—Mead's Conversations—Dr. Cadogan—Dr. J. Bainbridge—Dr. J. Fothergill—Dr. Battie—Dr. M. Baillie—Dr. Sydenham—Sir Hans Sloane—Dr. W. Hunter—Dr. Hawes—Dr. Glover—Dr. G. Fordyce—Dr. Cheyne—Dr. W. Harvey—Dr. Friend—Dr. Arbuthnot—Dr. Jenner—Dr. Gregory—Dr. Lettsom—Dr. Mounsey—Sir R. Croft—Dr. Mackintosh—Sir D. Barry—Chesselden—Mr. P. Pott—Mr. Hey—Mr. Heaviside.

WHAT a myriad of pleasing and melancholy associations crowd upon our mind, as we gaze at the old College of Physicians, in Warwick Lane!

The contiguity of this College to the Old Bailey, and the impression excited in the mind by a view of the entrance porch, are thus humourously alluded to

by Sir Samuel Garth, in the opening canto of his  
 “Dispensary;”—

“Not far from that most celebrated place,  
 Where angry Justice shows her awful face,  
 Where little villains must submit to fate,  
 That great ones may enjoy the world in state,—  
 There stands a Dome, majestic to the sight,  
 And sumptuous arches bear its awful height;  
 A golden globe, placed high with artful skill,  
 Seems to the distant sight a gilded pill.”

We have previously stated that the College of Physicians was founded by Linacre, in the year 1578. Prior to that event, the state of medical science was very low in England. It was only remarkable for ingenious hypotheses, unsupported by the evidence of facts, and for a credulous faith in astrological influence, equally visionary. The sweating sickness raged in London with great violence previous to the year 1518. The infected died within three hours after the appearance of the disease, and no *effectual* remedy was discovered. The administration of justice was suspended during its continuance, and the court removed from place to place with precipitation and fear.

Half the people in some parts of the country were swept away, and the principal trade carried on was in coffins and shrouds; but even that, in the progress of the plague, was generally abandoned. In London, vast sepulchral pits were prepared every morning, into which the victims were thrown promiscuously. The



only sounds in the city during the day, were the doleful monotony of unceasing knells, and the lamentations of the tainted, deserted by their friends, crying from the windows to the passengers to pray for them. The door of almost every house was marked with a red cross, the sign that the destroying angel had been there; and all night, as the loaded wheels of the death-waggons rolled along, a continual cry was heard of "Bring out your dead." To discover a remedy, or some mode of averting the recurrence of this terrible calamity, the king, at the suggestion of Dr. Linacre, was induced to establish the College of Physicians: among others mentioned in the charter, as the advisers of this beneficial institution, Cardinal Wolsey's name is particularly mentioned.\*

Previously to the reign of Henry the Eighth, there were but few restraints on the practice of Physic and Surgery; and the most illiterate and ignorant pretended to professional knowledge, and exercised the art of *killing* with impunity. At length, in 1511, an Act of Parliament was passed to restrict, "within the City of London, or within seven miles of the same," the practice of either faculty to those who should be "examined, approved of, and admitted," by the Bishop of London, or the Dean of St. Paul's, assisted by four doctors of Physic, and "other persons expert in surgery.†

\* Vide Galt's Life of Cardinal Wolsey.

† In the preamble to this act, we have the curious information, that "the science and cunning of physic and surgery"

The good effects of this act were soon apparent; and in order to extend and perpetuate its beneficial results, the King, on the 23rd of September, 1518, instituted the *College of Physicians*, by his letters patent, granted to several persons therein named, who were incorporated into one body, with power to form “a perpetual Commonalty, or Fellowship, of the Faculty of Physic.”

About four years afterwards, the privileges conferred by the charter were confirmed and extended by parliament; and the President, and three *Elects*, (of whom eight were to be appointed annually,) were empowered to examine all Physicians within the several dioceses of England, except graduates of the two Universities.—The low state of anatomy in Queen Elizabeth’s reign, may be estimated from the fact of that Princess having, in 1565, granted to the College the privilege “to take yearly, for ever, one, two, three, or four human bodies, to dissect and anatomize, having been condemned and dead.”—Additional charters, both confirmatory and extensional,

was daily exercised by “a great multitude of ignorant persons, of whom the greater part have no manner of insight in the same, nor in any other kind of learning (some, also, *can read no letters on the book*), so far forth, that common artificers, as *smiths, weavers, and women*, boldly, and accustomably took upon them great cures, and things of great difficulty, in which they partly used *sorceries and witchcraft*, and partly applied such medicines unto the diseased as are very noisome, and nothing meet therefore; to the high displeasure of God, &c., and *destruction* of many of the King’s liege people.”

have been granted by different sovereigns ; and the Society now consists of a President, Electors, Fellows, Honorary Fellows, Candidates, and Licentiates.

The first *Edifice*, wherein the College meetings were held, was given to the Society by the far-famed Dr. Linacre, who had been physician to Henry VII. and his sons Prince Arthur and Henry VIII. It had been his own habitation, and stood in *Knight-Rider-street* : he died in 1524. In the following century, the members removed to *Amen Corner*, Paternoster Row, where they had bought some leasehold premises. Here the learned Dr. Harvey (discoverer of the circulation of the blood) erected a Convocation-room, and a Museum in the garden ; and on the Society placing his bust in their Hall, with a suitable inscription recording his discoveries, he gave the whole to the College, in the year 1652, at a splendid entertainment, to which he had invited all the members. He also, in 1656, instituted an *anniversary feast*, and at the first banquet, assigned his paternal estate, (which was of the then annual value of £56) to the Society ; partly to defray the expenses of the feast, and partly to establish an annual Latin oration.

After the destruction of the College building, in the conflagration of 1666, the Society purchased an extensive plot of ground in *Warwick Lane*, on which the present edifice was erected between the years 1674 and 1689 ; from the designs and under the superintendance of Sir Christopher Wren.\*

\* The following singular particulars relating to this pile, and



The ground-plan of this building is irregular and peculiar: the buildings surround a quadrangular court;

to the placing of the statue of Sir John Cutler (whom Pope's caustic Satires have "damned to everlasting fame;" though probably to the poet's own disgrace, if the subject, were thoroughly investigated,) in front of the College Theatre, within the inclosed court, are given by Pennant, from the information of Dr. Warren:—

"It also appears, by the annals of the Society, that in the year 1674, a considerable sum of money had been subscribed by the Fellows for the erection of a new College. It also appears, that Sir John Cutler, a near relation of Dr. Whistler, the President, was desirous of becoming a benefactor. A Committee was appointed to wait upon Sir John, and thank him for his kind intentions: he accepted their thanks, renewed his promise, and specified that part of the building of which he intended to bear the expense. In the year 1680, statues in honour of the King and Sir John were voted by the members; and nine years afterwards, the College being then completed, it was resolved to borrow money of Sir John to discharge the College debt, but the sum is not specified. It appears, however, that in 1699, Sir John's executors made a demand on the College of £7000, which sum was supposed to include the money actually lent, the money pretended *to be given*, but set down as a *debt* in Sir John's books, and the interest on *both*. Lord Radnor, however, and Mr. Boulter, Sir John Cutler's executors, were prevailed on to accept £2000 from the College, and actually remitted the other £5000: so that Sir John's promise, which he never performed, obtained him the statue, and the liberality of his executors has kept it in its place ever since; but the College have wisely obliterated the inscription, which in the warmth of its gratitude, it had placed beneath the figure:—'*Omnis Cutleri cedat labor Amphitheatro.*'"—Vide Pennant's "London," p. 310, 4th edit. 1805.



but there is a considerable difference in the measurements of the north and south sides, although the fronts are nearly uniform. This variation arose from the confined situation and limited extent of the area on which the college was erected. The entrance in Warwick Lane, though of bold proportions and lofty elevation, cannot be seen from any point favourable to its architectural character.—An octangular porch, 40 feet in diameter, and of considerable height, with a few adjoining apartments, form the eastern front of this fabric. The lofty arch of entrance, which has ponderous iron gates, is flanked by two Ionic three-quarter columns on each side, the capitals of which are enriched by festoons, and sustain a pediment and attic of the Corinthian order. The porch is surmounted by a cupola, or dome (crowned by a gilt ball) which includes the *theatre*, where surgical operations were formerly performed, and lectures and orations delivered.

On the inner side, three open arches lead into the quadrangular court: the buildings are of brick, having stone dressings and enrichments. The principal front, which faces the entrance, consists of two stories, Ionic below, and Corinthian above, with their respective entablatures supported by pilasters, and crowned by an angular pediment. Over the doorway is the following inscription:—“*Utriusque fortunæ exemplar ingens adversus rebus Deum probavit prosperis seipsum Collegii hujusce stator;*” and in a rusticated niche above, formed in the centre of the second story, is a statue of King Charles II. The

statue of Sir John Cutler stands on the opposite side of the court, within a niche in front of the theatre, in the upper story of the porch. The hall or court-room, is of considerable length, and well lighted on both sides by large semi-circular headed windows. The ceiling is slightly coved, and much embellished with stuccoed ornaments. An open yard, or area, extends on the west side, the entire length of the building, and is skirted by the stone walls of Newgate.

After the removal of the Society to their splendid *new College*, in Pall-Mall East, on the 25th June, 1825, these premises were for some time occupied by the *self*-named "*Equitable Loan Company*." The venerable Hall is now desecrated by being turned into a butcher's market.\*

In bringing before the notice of our readers sketches of some of the principal physicians of eminence whose genius immortalized the College, we would premise that it is not our intention to enter into a minute detail of their professional career—such a course would be inconsistent with the design of this work. Of many celebrated physicians little has been recorded. We have, however, endeavoured to supply, to a certain extent, the deficiency in medical biography of which we complain, imperfect as we feel our readers will think it to be.

The chief advantage of biography is, that it affords both examples for imitation, and beacons for warning.

\* Vide Mr. E. W. Brayley's "*Londiniana*," vol. iv.

In tracing the lives of some of our most eminent physicians, the youthful student will see that it was to their industry, their zeal, their learning, their perseverance, that they owed their success, as much—if not in truth more—than to their natural endowments. We do not say that for these great men nature had done nothing, but we do say that nature did nothing for them in comparison with what they did for themselves. And

“If past experience may attain,  
To something like prophetic strain,”

We may reasonably predicate of all who place before their eyes, as models for imitation, those eminent individuals who have excelled in that branch of science to which they propose to devote themselves, that a similar success, and a similar reputation will crown *their* efforts and reward *their* exertions. It is then chiefly for the purpose of encouraging the student about to enter upon the toilsome and perilous paths of medical practice, that these pages have been written; but we trust also that they will not be found destitute of interest or value in the eyes of the non-professional public. The moral they convey is of universal application—the truths they teach of universal importance; and we are well assured that this moral and these truths can be in no better way conveyed or enforced, than in portraying the early struggles and ultimate triumph of great men, in whatever pursuits they may be occupied.



“Whose lives more than preceptive wisdom taught,  
The great in action, and the pure in thought.”

DR. SCARBOROUGH, or SIR CHARLES SCARBOROUGH, was first physician to Charles II, James II, and William III. Mr. Oughted informs us that his memory was so tenacious, that he could recite in order all the propositions of Euclid, Archimedes, and other ancient Mathematicians. He assisted Harvey in his book “*De Generatione Animalium*,” and succeeded him as a lecturer of anatomy and surgery. He was a man of amiable manners, and of great pleasantry in conversation. Seeing the Duchess of Portsmouth eat to excess, he said to her, with his usual frankness, “Madam, I will deal with you as a physician should do; *you must eat less, use more exercise, take physic, or be sick.*”

WILLIAM SERMON was an eminent physician of Bristol. He was said to have possessed a palliative remedy for the dropsy, by which the Duke of Albemarle was greatly relieved: but he, not long after relapsed into this distemper, which at length proved fatal to him. Dr. Sermon, who was naturally vain, grew vainer than ever upon his success, and seemed to think nothing beyond the reach of his skill; as if a man that cured the Great Monck of the dropsy, could do everything in the power of physic.

“ Let Zoilists laugh at what is past and done,  
Brave Sermon’s acts shall live in face o’ the sun,  
Great Monck, restorer of his country’s peace,  
Declares from him his dropsy soon shall cease.”

DR. THOMAS WILLIS was an eminent physician, who flourished in the year 1685. He was a great scholar, and wrote the Latin language with great purity. His works were much celebrated at home and abroad, and his practice was in proportion to his fame. He was regular in his devotions, his studies, and visiting his patients; and his custom was to dedicate his Sunday fees to the relief of the poor. Willis and Lower first recommended the waters of Astrop, which were afterwards decried by the celebrated Dr. Radcliffe; the reason for which was, the circumstance of the people of the village insisting upon the Dr. keeping an illegitimate child, which was laid to him by an infamous woman of that place: upon this, the doctor declared “ that he would put a toad into their well,” and accordingly cried down the waters, which soon lost their reputation.

SIR WILLIAM PETTY was professor of anatomy in Oxford, and fellow of the College of Physicians, in the reign of Charles II. He gave early proofs of that comprehensive and inquisitive genius, for which he was afterwards so eminent; and which seems to have been designed by nature for every branch of

science to which he applied himself. At the age of fifteen, he was master of all the learned languages, mathematics, geometry, navigation, &c. He made his way in the world under great disadvantages, in point of circumstances, having acquired a very moderate fortune with as much difficulty, as he afterwards rose to wealth and eminence. During a visit to France, he told Mr. Aubrey that he had lived for a week on three pennyworth of walnuts. But he at length, to use his own expression, "hewed out his fortune himself." He was an able mathematician, was skilful in drawing, and understood the practical parts of mechanics, and was an exact surveyor. He died 1685-7.

About the same period, flourished DR. GIDEON HARVEY. There was, perhaps, never anything more remarkable than the fortune of this man. About the latter end of King William's reign, there was a great debate who should succeed the deceased physician to the Tower. The contending parties were so equally matched in their interests and pretensions, that it was extremely difficult to determine which should have the preference. The matter was at length brought to a compromise; and Dr. Gideon Harvey was promoted to that office; for the same reason that Sixtus V. was advanced to the pontificate; because he was in appearance, sickly and infirm; and his death was expected in a few months. He, however, survived not only his rivals, but all his contemporary physi-



cians; and died after he had enjoyed his sinecure above fifty years.

In the year 1696 lived the celebrated Dr. MEAD, the origin of whose success, as a physician, we have recorded in our sketch of his illustrious contemporary, Radcliffe. According to another authority, Mead's rise in life was owing to his being called in to a celebrated Duchess, distinguished for her intemperate propensities. The Doctor had sacrificed rather more freely to the jolly god than was consistent with a healthy exercise of his faculties, and as he was feeling his patient's pulse, his foot slipped, when he ejaculated—"Drunk!—yes, quite drunk!" alluding to himself. The Duchess, imagining he had found out her complaint, which she was most anxious to conceal, told Mead, if he kept her secret, she would recommend him. He did so, and the Doctor rose to fame and opulence.

Notwithstanding the violence displayed by Dr. Mead, in his controversy with Woodward, whom it is represented he challenged and compelled to beg pardon,\* he was, in his general conduct, mild and for-

\* A different version is, however, given of this altercation. It is said that Mead and Woodward met, and both drew, and that Mead, not loving cold iron, retreated; when Woodward, making a false step, fell down. His antagonist then ran in, and standing over him, demanded if he would submit and ask his life. "If you threatened me with your *physic*, I might beg my life," said Woodward, "but I certainly shall not ask it for fear



bearing. On one occasion, a servant, whom he asked to look for his spectacles, told him petulantly, but without exciting any observation in reply, that "he was always losing his things." His anger was, however, occasionally roused. He once said to a divine, who, instead of attending to his prescriptions, had been following the directions laid down by Dr. Cheyne—"Sir, I have never yet, in the whole course of my practice, taken or demanded a fee of a clergyman; but, since you have pleased, contrary to what I have met with in any other gentleman of your profession, to prescribe to me, rather than follow my prescriptions, when you had committed the care of your recovery to my skill and trust, you must not take it amiss, nor will, I hope, think it unfair, if I demand ten guineas of you." The clergyman paid the money, six guineas of which Mead subsequently returned.

Another anecdote is recorded of this celebrated physician, but we have some doubts whether Dr. Mead was the "happy man" referred to. We give it, however, as we find it narrated. Mead lived on terms of

of your sword." Among the prints which adorn Ward's "Lives of the Gresham Professors," is a gate-way, entering from Broad-street, marked 25. Within are the figures of two persons, the one standing, and the other kneeling. These represent Dr. Woodward, the Professor of Physic, and Mead; and allude to the transaction referred to above:—

"Physicians, if they're wise, should never think,  
Of any arms but such as pen and ink."

GARTH.

intimacy with a clergyman in his neighbourhood. The former was attacked with a fit of the gout, when Mead attended him, of course, gratuitously, and cured him. Some time after this, Mead called upon the clergyman to ask him to perform the matrimonial service, and the call was cheerfully obeyed. After the performance of the nuptial ceremony, the clergyman, unobserved, made his escape, and Mead's brother followed him to his house, and offered him a handsome fee. The divine, it is said, retired for a few minutes to his study, and returned the fee to the bearer, with the following impromptu:—

“To the Doctor, the Parson's a sort of a brother ;  
And a good turn from one, deserves one from the other ;  
So take back your guineas, dear doctor, again ;  
Nor give—what you so well can remedy—*pain*.  
Permit me to wish you all joy and delight,  
On th' occasion that brought us together to-night ;  
May health, wealth, and fame, attend you thro' life,  
And ev'ry day add to the bliss of your *wife* !”

Mead dabbled considerably in the stocks. One day prior, to his visiting his patients, he received intelligence that the stocks had suddenly fallen. At this moment he was sent for, in a great hurry, to visit a lady who was represented to be very ill. Having considerable property in the funds, the news made so strong an impression upon his mind, that, whilst he was feeling the patient's pulse, he exclaimed, “Mercy upon me, how they fall! lower! lower! lower!” The lady, in alarm, flew to the bell, crying out, “I am

dying! Dr. Mead says, my pulse gets lower, and lower; so that it is impossible I should live!" "You are dreaming, madam," replied the physician, rousing himself from his reverie; "your pulse is very good, and nothing ails you: it was the stocks I was talking of."

Dr. Wharton, in his life of the Duke of Marlborough, says, in his last illness Dr. Mead was consulted. When the physician had given his instructions, and written his prescription, he left the chamber; the Duchess, not liking the advice he had given, followed him to the door, and would, had she not been prevented, have torn off his periwig.

Dr. Friend's practice was principally confined to the members of the high church or tory party; Mead was patronized by the whigs. When Dr. Friend was confined, during the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, under a suspicion of being concerned in a plot for the restoration of the Stuarts, Mead was incessant in his endeavours to obtain his liberation. At length, being called to attend Sir Robert Walpole, he absolutely refused to prescribe for him unless Friend was released, and he succeeded in effecting his object.

A large party assembled at Mead's in the evening to congratulate Friend; and, upon his retiring with Arbuthnot, Mead took Friend into his closet, and there put into his hands a bag containing all the fees he had received from Friend's patients during his confinement, amounting to no less than 5,000 guineas.

Friend once received a fee of 300 guineas for a



journey from London to Ingestree, in Staffordshire, to attend Mr. Pulteny, who lay there dangerously ill, but recovered before Friend arrived.

During almost half a century Dr. Mead was at the head of his profession; which brought him in, one year, upwards of £7,000, and between £5,000 and £6,000 for several years. The clergy, and, in general, all men of learning, were welcome to his advice; and his doors were open every morning to the most indigent, whom he frequently assisted with money; so that, notwithstanding his great genius, he did not die rich. He was a most generous patron of learning and learned men, in all sciences, and in every country; by the peculiar munificence of his disposition, making the private gains of his profession answer the end of a princely fortune, and valuing them only as they enabled him to become more extensively useful, and thereby to satisfy the greatness of his mind, which will transmit his name to posterity with a lustre not inferior to that which attends the most distinguished characters of antiquity.

No foreigner of any learning, taste, or even curiosity, ever came to England without being introduced to Dr. Mead; and he was continually consulted in difficult cases by eminent continental physicians. His large and spacious house, in Great Ormond-street, became a repository of all that was curious in nature or in art, to which his extensive correspondence with the learned in all parts of Europe, not a little contributed. The King of Naples sent to request a copy of all his works. The King of France did him the

same honour. Dr. Mead's library consisted of 10,000 volumes. His pictures, after his death, sold for £3,417. 11s.

A gentleman, who was troubled with a constant affection of his eyes, waited on Dr. Mead for advice. The doctor desired him to leave off drinking wine. In a few weeks the patient felt the good effects of the prescription, and waited on the doctor to thank him for his advice. He was not a little surprised to find him in a tavern, discussing a bottle of wine with a friend. "Well," said the patient, "I see you doctors do not follow your own prescriptions." To which Mead replied, "if you love your eyes better than wine, don't drink it; but, as I love wine better than my eyes, I do drink it."

Mead calling one day on a gentleman who had been severely afflicted with the gout, found, to his surprise, the disease gone, and the patient rejoicing on his recovery over a bottle of wine. "Come along, doctor," exclaimed the patient, "you are just in time to taste this bottle of Maderia; it is the first of a pipe that has just been broached." "Ah!" replied Mead, "these pipes of Maderia will never do; they are the cause of all your suffering." "Well, then," rejoined the gay incurable, "fill your glass, for now we have found out *the cause*, the sooner we get rid of it the better."

Walpole says, that Lady Sandon's influence over Queen Caroline arose from her being possessed of the secret of her majesty's being afflicted with *hernia umbilicus*. This, from motives of delicacy, she had

communicated to the mistress of the robes, Lady Sandon: she was even so imprudent as to conceal her disease from the medical men, who treated her for gout of the stomach. When the danger became imminent, concealment was impossible.

Dr. Sands, an accoucheur, suggested that a cure might be effected by the injection of warm water. Dr. Mead entered a most positive protest against the experiment. Sir Edward Hulse was the only court physician who approved of the operation. At the time when the operation was performed, every wish to keep her Majesty's malady a secret must have been abandoned: for the courtiers, both male and female, were assembled in the anti-chamber, waiting anxiously the event.

The intestine was burst in the operation, and Dr. Sands and Sir Edward Hulse saw that the Queen must inevitably die of a mortification within a few hours. The only question which then remained for the two physicians to consider was, how they might get out of the palace before the unfortunate issue was known. They determined to say that the operation had succeeded. As soon as the two physicians came out of the Queen's chamber, and announced their success, the old Duke of Newcastle, who was among those who waited in the anti-chamber, ran up to Dr. Sands and hugged him, exclaiming, "You dear creature, the nation can never sufficiently reward you for having saved the life of the most valuable woman in the world!" The doctor struggled to get away, apprehensive that some of the ladies, who had gone



in to the Queen after the physicians had left her, might come out and disclose the truth.\*

Mead rendered himself celebrated for his *conversaziones*, to which he invited the great wits and literati of the day. The following allusion to these interesting meetings occurs in a popular work of the present day:—

“Pray doctor,” said the Counsellor ———, “what a pity it is, methinks, we have so few of these *conversaziones* now-a-days—they are so rational, so delightful. I remember, when a boy, how much I wished to be a man, that I might be permitted to join the societies of this caste. There were I know not how many in the neighbourhood of my poor father, in Ormond Street. First, I recollect Sir Hans Sloane’s, in Bloomsbury Square—ha!—ha!—ha!—the precise old gentleman; he used to be so out of temper when they spilled the coffee on his carpets; and that reminds me of Handel, whom I can well recollect. He was there one evening (as I heard him relate) and inadvertently laid his muffin on one of the old Knight’s books. ‘To be sure it was a *gareless* trick,’ said the great composer, ‘bud it *tid* no *monsdrou* mischief; *pode* it put the old *poog-vorm* treadfully out of sorts. I offered my best apologies,’ said he, ‘but the old miser would not have done with it.’—‘It is really a want of feeling to do these things,’ said Sir Hans. ‘If it had been a biscuit, it would not have

\* Nichol’s “Recollections of Geo. III.,” vol. i. p. 369, and Cox’s “Life of Walpole.”



mattered; but muffin and butter—only think, Mr. Martin Folkes!”

“‘*Ah, mine godd—that is the rub!*’ (said Handel,) ‘*it is the pudder!*’ now, mine worthy friend, Sir Hans Sloane, you have a nodable excuse—you may save your doast and *pudder*, and lay it to dat unfeeling gormandizing German; and den I knows it will add something to your life, by sparing your *burse!*’

“I have been told every one enjoyed this blunt humour of Handel’s; for Sir Hans, although a very good man in most respects, was parsimonious to a great fault. Indeed, it was said, on Sir Hans discontinuing these meetings, which had for a long time drawn a select number of distinguished men together on a winter’s night, that it was principally to save his tea and bread and butter.

“Not so with Dr. Mead. What a princely mind had that noble creature! I can remember his benignant look when once I was taken to him by my father—it was one forenoon—to see his fine collection of paintings. I could not be more than eight or nine years old, yet I well remember a formal beau of the old school being there, who was talking very pompously about the pictures. This was Master Aaron Hill. Yes, I remember him the rather, because, little urchin as I was, I observed to my father, when we left the Doctor’s, on his asking me, with fond condescension, how I liked what I had seen—‘Sir, I think Mr. Aaron Hill was very rude to talk as he did about Doctor Mead’s picture; and if I had been the Doctor, I would have caned him.’ Sirs, my father

laughed at my *manikin* expression all the way home. And that, too, reminds me of my poor father's humour for some years after; for when my eldest brothers used to have any little dispute with me, the worthy old gentleman used to say, 'Take care, masters, or you may come in for a *cane-ing*.'

"This picture relating to Aaron Hill was a clever whole-length—I say clever, though I could be no judge then, because I have lately seen it in the Foundling-Hospital—was painted by my old friend Allan Ramsey. It is so like—ah, what a wonderful art!—that I could have spoken to it, it carried me so completely back to my infancy.

"Aaron, I remember, among other faults declared—which to be sure is no small one—it was not like the Doctor, which I thought very odd, being no connoisseur," added the counsellor, smiling; "for I thought it so strong a resemblance, that I fancied it was almost alive, and wondered how such a work could be done. He further said to my father, 'Sir, no man can paint now, except Mr. Reynolds—and he is not fit to hold a candle to Vandyke.'

"All this, boy as I was, I thought very strange and very foolish; or perhaps," said the candid relator, with becoming self-knowledge, "I now think so—for the story of that visit was so often told at my father's table, that I may give to myself the merit of reflections made by my elders. One thing, however, I may safely say, which is, that Master Aaron appeared to me a rude and a pedantic coxcomb.

"That Doctor Mead was a great soul indeed!" said

my friend the Cantab. "How much more society is indebted to such a being than the far greater part of mankind is aware of! Here was a man who raised a fortune by his rare talent; who, amidst the arduous labours of his professional duties, yet found leisure to cultivate his love for the arts and sciences; who spared no expense in collecting works of taste, but moreover, who, with a munificence and benevolence that must endear his memory to all good men, did not this out of ostentation—no! but from the generous desire to promote the study of polite arts at his own expense;—urged to this act by that dignified feeling which could not bear to behold genius disregarded, or to think that the children of taste were the only orphans, in an age of civilization, who were left to battle alone with adversity. That great and good man, Sirs, when he had formed his collection, which was certainly in those days no mean one, threw open his gallery for the benefit of the students in painting and sculpture, and his house on a morning was truly an academy of science.

"Sirs, I have it on indubitable authority, that he would lend any, even the most costly of his pictures, to any respectable artist for an exemplar; and let us suppose what a valuable patron such a man must have been, in such an age of apathy to these matters as the reign of the second George."

"In the autumn of 1738," says Dr. Cuming to Lettsom, "I frequently visited Dr. Mead. One morning, while at breakfast, he told me that he had



been applied to by Sir William (then Dr. Brown), who had come to reside in the metropolis, to recommend a physician of character to supply his place at Lynn. Dr. Mead obligingly told me, that, if agreeable, he would recommend me for this purpose. This offer I thankfully accepted of. When I next waited on the doctor, he acquainted me that he had, according to his promise, mentioned me to Dr. Brown, but that he, on inquiring who and what I was, objected to me, saying, he should accept of no person as his successor, who was not a graduate of Oxford and Cambridge." Dr. Mead, piqued at this reply, as considering such a circumstance to be of very little importance, answered with some warmth, "Sir, you annexed no such condition on your first application to me. For the sake of my own character, you might have been persuaded that I would have recommended no gentleman to you, but one with whom I was acquainted, who had had a liberal education, and whose manners and abilities I was well informed of by persons of credit who had introduced him to me. Do you, Sir, yourself look out for a successor to your own taste; I shall concern myself no further in this business." It was principally to Dr. Mead that the several counties of England, and our Colonies abroad, applied for the choice of their physicians, as he never recommended any but such whose capacity he was well assured of. He never failed to assist them with his advice and information when they had recourse to him in difficult cases, and required nothing of them in return, but an account of their

several discoveries and observations, of which they enjoyed the whole honour.\*

It has been justly said of this distinguished physician, that “of all physicians who had ever flourished, he gained the most, spent the most, and enjoyed the highest favour during his lifetime, not only in his own, but in foreign countries.”†

In 1660 flourished DOCTOR CADOGAN, who was distinguished as much for his fondness for shooting, as for his medical skill. The following lines refer to this physician :—

“ Doctor, all game you either ought to shun,  
Or sport no longer with the unsteady gun,  
But like physicians of undoubted skill,  
Gladly attempt what never fails to kill,  
Not *lead's* uncertain dross, but *physic's* deadly pill.”

This physician, who was at one time in indifferent circumstances, married a rich old lady, over whose wealth he had an entire control. Like most mercantile marriages, it was not of the happiest kind. The

\* Pettigrew, vol. I. p. 103, dated March 6, 1785.

† The following lines were addressed to the author of an epitaph on Dr. Mead :—

“ Mead's not dead then, you say, only sleeping a little ;  
Why, egad ! Sir, you've hit it off there to a tittle ;  
Yet, friend, his awakening I very much doubt,  
Pluto knows who he's got, and will ne'er let him out.”

lady had a suspicion on her mind, that the doctor would one day poison her with his physic in order to get her out of his way, and feeling ill, on one occasion, she exclaimed that she was poisoned. "Poisoned!" said the doctor to a number of his wife's friends who were present, "how can that possibly be? Whom do you accuse of the crime?" "You," replied the indignant wife. "Gentlemen," said the doctor, with considerable *non-chalance*, "it is perfectly false. You are quite welcome to open her at once, and you will then discover the calumny."

This same physician was boasting of the eminence of his profession, and spoke loudly against the injustice of the world, which was so satirical against it, "But thank God," said he, "I have escaped, for no one can complain of me." "That is more than you can tell, doctor," said a lady who was present, "unless you know the subjects of conversation in the next world."

In the 18th century lived Dr. JOHN BAINBRIDGE, an eminent physician and astronomer. Judging from the accounts published of him, he must have ranked high as a scholar and medical philosopher. His description of the comet in 1618, made him acquainted with Sir Henry Savile, who, without any application or recommendation in favour of Dr. Bainbridge, appointed him his first professor of astronomy at Oxford, in the year 1619. He was a most voluminous writer on astronomical subjects. An odd



story is related of him by Dr. Walter Pope, in his Life of Seth Ward, Bishop of Salisbury. Speaking of the doctor he says, "This is the same Dr. Bainbridge who was afterwards Savilian Professor of Astronomy at Oxford, a learned and good mathematician. Yet there goes a story of him, which was in many scholars' mouths, when I was first admitted there, that he put upon the school-gate, as the custom is, an *affiche* or written paper, giving notice at what time, and upon what subject, the professor will read, which ended in these words—*Lectures de polis et axis*, under which was written, by an unknown hand, as follows:—

" Doctor Bainbridge  
 Came from Cambridge,  
 To read *de polis et axis* :  
 Let him go back again,  
 Like a dunce as he came,  
 And learn a new syntaxis."

Dr. Bainbridge died the 3d of November, 1643, aged 62.

DOCTOR JOHN FOTHERGILL was the son of parents who professed the principles of Quakerism. They are supposed to have been in the middle rank of life, and to have gone through the world with no other distinction in society, than that which belonged to the humble claims of honest industry.

To those who remember the sobriety and decorum of Fothergill's deportment, it will appear incredible that at any period of his life he should have acted in

such a manner as to give offence to decency and propriety; and were not the fact of public notoriety, and within the memory of many now living, it would hardly deserve credit, or meet with any belief. But however extraordinary it may appear, it is confidently asserted, that while he resided at Edinburgh he walked the length of High Street naked to the waist, and, in a fit of inspiration, denounced God's vengeance on the inhabitants. The motive for an action so indecent and eccentric, sets all conjecture at defiance.

Dr. Fothergill commenced the practice of his profession in 1740, in a house situated in White-heart Court, Lombard Street, where he continued the greater part of his life, and acquired and established both his fame and fortune.

Dr. Fothergill was as distinguished for his charity, as for his medical skill. A physician of eminence, who had long been on a friendly footing with him, being under difficulties, and having a wife and several children to support, mentioned his distress to him, when, to his great satisfaction, Dr. Fothergill presented him with a draft upon his banker for £1000. Since his death it appears from his memoranda, that for the last twenty-five years his fees averaged £6700 per annum. Fothergill entertained high notions respecting the dignity of the profession he followed. Nothing (says Dr. Lettsom) hurt his feelings more, than an estimate of the medical profession, formed upon lucrative advantages. He was ever averse to speak of his pecuniary emoluments. "My only wish," he declared, "was to do what little

business might fall to my share, as well as possible, and to banish all thoughts of practising physic as a money-getting trade, with the same solicitude as I would the suggestions of vice or intemperance." In a letter written several years afterwards, when he was in the receipt of a large professional income, he writes, "I endeavour to follow my business, because it is my duty, rather than my interest; *the last is inseparable from a just discharge of duty*; but I have ever wished to look at the profits in the last place, and this wish has attended me ever since my beginning." Again he says, "I wished most fervently, and I endeavour after it still, to do the business that occurred, with all the diligence I could, as *a present duty*, and endeavoured to repress any rising idea of *its consequences*—such a circumscribed unaspiring temper of mind, doing every thing with diligence, humility, and as in the sight of the God of healing, frees the mind from much unavailing distress and consequential disappointment."

We have already stated that charity was a predominant feature in Dr. Fothergill's character. It is stated that during the summer he retired to Lea Hall, in Cheshire. He devoted one day in every week to attendance at Middlewich, the nearest market-town, and gave his gratuitous advice to the poor. He assisted the clergy, not merely with his advice, but, on numerous occasions, with his purse. On one occasion he was reproved by a friend for his refusal of a fee from a person who had attained a high rank in the church. "I had rather (replied the doctor) return the fee of a gentleman whose rank I am not perfectly



acquainted with, than run the risk of taking it from a man who ought, perhaps, to be the object of my bounty." When he paid his last visit to patients in decayed circumstances, it was not unusual with him, under the appearance of feeling the pulse, to slip into their hand a sum of money, or a bank-note. In one instance this mode of donation is said to have conveyed £150. To the modest or proud poverty which shuns the light of observation, he was the delicate and zealous visitor: in order to preclude the necessity of acknowledgment, which is often painful to such minds, he would endeavour to invent some motive for his bounty, and hence afford to the receiver the pretensions of a claim, while the liberal donor appeared to be only discharging a debt.

Lord Clive had been living for some time at Bath, under a regimen for reducing the enormous quantity of opium which he had gradually brought his constitution to bear; and when this object was in a great degree effected, the physicians absolutely forbid his taking the waters, and advised his return to London. On his arrival there, Dr. Fothergill, whom he immediately consulted, blamed him very much for the course he had adopted, and advised his immediate return to Bath, strongly recommending the waters of that place as the only means of relief. Thus buffeted about by his different physicians, and concluding from their conduct towards him that his case would not admit of any remedy, he resolved to obviate the lingering approaches of death by the fatal application of his own hand.

A few years before the death of this celebrated physician, a Cumberland gentleman, much addicted to the bottle, and possessed of few Christian virtues, coming to town, applied to the doctor for advice. Being introduced, Fothergill, who had some knowledge of his person, which, however, he chose to conceal, inquired what was his ailment; to which the patient replied, he was very well in health, eat well, drank well, and slept well, but wished to know how he might be guarded against *sudden snaps*. The venerable physician, feeling a supreme contempt for so dissolute and abandoned a character, gave him a prescription for his *complaint* in the following deserved reproof: “*Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with thy God, and do not snap the bottle too often.*”

Of Dr. Fothergill, Dr. Cuming observes: “He possessed a greater purity of manners, more self-government, and a more absolute command of his passions than any man I ever knew, who was constantly engaged in business, and a continued intercourse with the world. After saying thus much, I may be allowed to remark, that there was in his manner a *perpendicularity*, a certain *formality*, and *solemnity*, which checked, in some measure, the approach of strangers. He generally wore, indeed, on his countenance a smile—it was a smile of benignity and philanthropy, and to his patients it was a *hope-inspiring smile*.

“Seldom he laugh’d, and laugh’d in such a sort,  
As if he mock’d himself, and scorn’d his spirit  
That could be mov’d to laugh at any thing.”

“But all this I attribute to his having been initiated from his birth, and educated in the most rigid maxims of the religious society to which he belonged, of the propriety of which he was thoroughly convinced, and most strictly tenacious. Had he been a member of any other religious sect, this formality in his manner would not have appeared, the benevolence of his heart would have unfurled his features, relaxed them into a careless cordiality of aspect, and softened the rigour of austere virtues. No man, I believe, that mixed with the world ever passed through life with fewer relaxations from duty, for the enjoyment of what is usually denominated pleasure. I could have wished him to have been less tenacious of some discriminating peculiarities, which in my opinion are indifferent; but he possessed a great degree of self-diffidence.”

At the commencement of the American war, Mr. Grenville, then in power, wishing to know how the quaker colonists stood affected, sent a messenger to Dr. Fothergill, intimating that he was indisposed, and desiring to see him in the evening. The doctor came, and his patient immediately drew from him the information he wanted on the popular topic of American affairs. The conversation lasted through a large portion of the evening, and it was concluded by Mr. Grenville saying, he found himself so much better for the doctor's visit, that he would not trouble him to prescribe. In parting, Mr. Grenville slipped five guineas into the doctor's hand, which Fothergill surveying, said with a dry, arch tone, “At *this* rate,



friend, I will spare thee an hour whenever you please to send for me !”

“ I remember,” says Dr. Lettsom,\* when at “ Lea Hall, with Dr. Fothergill, one Sunday when the barber disappointed him, and his attendance at meeting seemed likely to be prevented, and the doctor in the fidgets, I observed to him : ‘ That his servant, Emanuel, could shave him.’ The doctor, with that fire and quickness which sometimes overcame him, hastily replied : ‘ If thou mean to preserve authority in thy house, never suffer a servant to take thee by the nose.’ I was silent, and the barber’s opportune arrival restored placidity and good humour.”

The fortune which Fothergill left was computed at £80,000. During the prevalence of the influenza, in the year 1775-6, he is said to have attended sixty patients a day, and his profits were then estimated at £8000 a-year.

In the eighteenth century lived the celebrated DOCTOR BATTIE. He was educated at Eton ; and in 1722, he was sent to King’s College, Cambridge, where he obtained the Craven scholarship. The following is an account of the doctor’s mode of living, before he obtained this honour, from the pen of one of his competitors, Dr. Morell : “ We jogged on in *statu quo*, till we came to the upper end of the school ; when Dr. Bland introduced a new method of

\* Pettigrew’s Life of Dr. L. Vol. I. p. 121.

declaiming (and I think a very good one); instead of a theme, I was to make a motion, as in the Athenian council, *Exulet Themistocles*, and Battie was to defend himself as Themistocles. We were strictly charged to have no assistance in the composition; and as there was something in mine, with regard to the argumentative part, far above my reach, Battie every where proclaimed that it was not mine; and even Dr. Bland suspected me, till I gave him an account of the plagiarism, from a weekly paper, in one of the letters signed Cato, against affecting popularity, for which Dr. Bland blamed me."

A pretty picture Dr. Morell gives of Battie's college life. He says, "We went to King's College about the same time; and during our scholarship, Battie's mother kindly recommended us to the chandler, at *4s. 6d. per dozen*. But, as the candles proved very dear even at that price, we resented it; and one evening, getting into Battie's room before canonical hour, we locked him out, lighted and stuck up all the candles we could find in his box, round the room; and, while I thumped on the spinnet, the rest danced round me in their shirts. Upon Battie's coming, and finding what we were at, he fell to stammering and swearing till the old vice provost, Dr. Willymot, called out from above, "Who is that swearing, like a common soldier?" "It is I," quoth Battie. "Visit me," said the vice-provost, which, indeed, we were all obliged to do the next morning with a distich, according to custom. Mine naturally turned upon, "So fiddled Orpheus, and so danced the brutes;"

which having explained to the vice-provost, he punished me and Sleech with a few lines of the Iliad of Homer, and Battie with the whole third book of Milton, to get as we say by heart. Dr. Battie belonged to Taylors' Inn, and he told me of a stranger calling him a *Taylor* in London. In his edition of Isocrates I wrote the following verses.

“ Nay, hold ! friend Battie, quit the press,  
 Nor farther urge thy failure ;  
 Your author asks no better dress  
 From such a bungling taylor.

“ Full happily the man mistook,  
 Unknowing of thy fame,  
 Who, ere you had botch'd, or patch'd a book,  
 Miscall'd you by this name.

“ But if this name still gives offence,  
 And ‘ quack ’ you'd rather hear,  
 As nothing shows a man of sense  
 Like knowing his own sphere ;

“ Confine yourself to licence given,  
 Nor dare beyond your trade ;  
 Though you are free to kill the living,  
 Yet prythee spare the dead.”

Dr. Battie originally intended to study law, but being disappointed in some pecuniary assistance which he expected to receive from his relations, he turned his attention to physic.

Dr. Battie commenced practice at Cambridge, but subsequently removed to Uxbridge, and then to



London; where the emoluments of his practice produced him £1000 per annum.

In the year 1738, he married the daughter of the under-master of Eton School, Barnham Goode, the same person who was humoured with the following extraordinary couplet by Pope:—

“ So, sneering Goode, half malice and half whim,  
A friend in glee, ridiculously grim.”

In a dispute which the College of Physicians had with Dr. Schomberg, about the year 1750, Dr. Battie, who was at that time one of the censors, took a very active part against that gentleman; and in consequence of it was thus severely characterised in a poem called “The Battiad.”

“ First *Battus* came, deep read in worldly art,  
Whose tongue ne’er knew the secrets of his heart;  
In mischief mighty, though but mean of size,  
And, like the tempter, ever in disguise.  
See him, with aspect grave, and gentle tread,  
By slow degrees, approach the sickly bed:  
Then at his club, behold him alter’d soon,  
The solemn doctor turns a low buffoon:  
And he, who lately in a learned freak,  
Poach’d every Lexicon, and published Greek,  
Still madly emulous of vulgar praise,  
From punch’s forehead wrings the dirty bays.”

By successfully mimicking this character, however, he is said to have once saved a young patient’s life. He was sent for to a gentleman between the age of fifteen and sixteen, who was in extreme misery from

a swelling in his throat; when Dr. Battie understood what the complaint was, he opened the curtain, turned his wig, and acted Punch with so much humour and success, that the lad was thrown into convulsive fits of laughter, which caused the tumour to break, and a complete cure was the consequence.

When Dr. Battie resided in the country, he affected to be his own day labourer, and to dress like one; nay, so very meanly was he attired, that one day going to visit a patient, the servant would not let him into the house; a scuffle ensued, and the doctor pushed himself into the saloon by main force.

One of Dr. Battie's whims was building. At Marlow he erected a house, forgetting to make a stair-case; and at high flood, the offices below were constantly under water. This house he lived in to his death. He insisted that the barges should be drawn up the river by horses instead of men. This, though a useful scheme, disoblged both poor and rich at the time, and a number of bargemen had very nearly tossed him over the bridge into the water. He escaped by acting punch. From that time, for fear of future insults, he always carried pocket pistols about with him.\*

In 1757, he was appointed physician to St. Luke's Hospital, and he published a quarto treatise on madness; in which having thrown out some censures on the medical practice formerly used in Bethlem Hos-

\* See Francis Carter's "Letter," v. iv. Nichol's "Eighteenth Century," p. 607.

pital, he was replied to, and severely animadverted on, by Dr. J. Monro, whose father had been lightly spoken of in the treatise. Monro having humorously enough taken Horace's "*O major, tandem parcas Insane, minori,*" for the motto of his "Remarks on Battie's Treatise," the men of mirth gave him the name of Major Battie instead of doctor.

In 1776, he was seized with a paralytic stroke, which carried him off, June 13th, in the same year, in his 75th year. The night he expired, conversing with his servant, a lad who attended on him as a nurse, he said to him, "young man, you have heard, no doubt, how great are the terrors of death. This night will probably afford you some experiment; but may you learn, and may you profit by the example, that a conscientious endeavour to perform his duty through life, will ever close a Christian's eyes with comfort and tranquillity." He soon departed without a struggle or a groan. He was buried by his own direction, at Kingston, in Surrey, "as near as possible to his wife, without any monument or memorial whatever."

DOCTOR MATHEW BAILLIE commenced his professional career under most favourable auspices. He was desirous of going into the church; but the eminence of his uncle, Dr. W. Hunter, induced him to study medicine. He was the son of an able professor of divinity. He married Sophia, the second daughter of the celebrated Dr. Denman. Mr. Baillie's sister



was married to the late Sir Richard Croft, a man whose name is endeared in the recollections of many, as well for his manly and upright heart, as for his professional celebrity. Miss Joanna Baillie, who has attained so high a rank in literature, was Dr. Baillie's sister.

Under the tuition of his maternal uncle, Dr. W. Hunter, his progress was very rapid. As a specimen of the course adopted by his preceptor, in order to instil into Baillie's mind a knowledge of his profession, we give the following: "Mathew, do you know any thing of to-day's lecture?" demanded Dr. Hunter of his nephew. "Yes, sir, I hope I do." "Well then, demonstrate to me." "I will go and fetch the preparation, sir." "Oh, no matter, if you know the subject really, you will know it whether the preparation be absent or present." After this short dialogue, Dr. Hunter would stand with his back to the fire, while young Baillie demonstrated the subject of the lecture which had just been delivered; and then the student was encouraged by approbation and assistance; or immediately upon the spot, convicted of having carried away with him nothing but loose and inaccurate information.

Of Dr. Baillie's generosity and liberality, his biographer has recorded the following instances: "A young lady who was suffering from a pulmonary complaint, asked his advice, and he recommended her to spend the winter months in a milder part of the country. He found that her circumstances would not admit of her trying this last resource to gain her

health; and to enable her to do so, he instantly gave her an adequate sum of money.

The following instance came under the observation of Mr. Wardrop, and is thus recorded by him: "A lady, whose rank in life was far above her pecuniary resources, had an illness, when Dr. B.'s attendance became important, and during which he regularly took his fee, until it was no longer necessary; he then left in a bag the whole amount of what he had received, offering to the lady an apology, that he knew that had he once refused to take his fee during his attendance, she would not have permitted him to continue it."

During the time he was spending the great part of each week at Windsor, in attendance on the Princess Amelia, who was then on her death-bed, so that the time he had to spend in London was more than completely occupied, a lady who had the dropsy, though aware of her hopeless condition, expressed a wish, that if she could but see Dr. Baillie, she should die contented. "I communicated to him," says Mr. Wardrop, "her wish, and he immediately acquiesced. He interrogated her about her means, which I knew to be very slender; he in consequence objected to take any fee, and continued punctually to visit her as long as she lived."

In 1810, Dr. B. was commanded by the late king to attend, in conjunction with Sir. H. Halford, Sir D. Dundas, and Dr. Pope, on his youngest daughter, the Princess Amelia. Though he was very sensible of the honour of receiving such a command, yet he

felt that it was adding greatly to the embarrassment occasioned by his very extensive practice; but whatever might have been the inconvenience of this attendance to himself, the condescension and kindness of his late Majesty very soon reconciled him to his visits at Windsor. Among other memoranda of Dr. Baillie, was found the following anecdote: "One day when I waited on the king, with the other medical attendants, in order to give an account of the Princess Amelia, His Majesty said to me, 'Dr. Baillie, I have a favour to ask of you, which I hope you will not refuse me, it is that you will become my physician extraordinary.' I bowed, and made the best acknowledgment in words that I could. His Majesty added, "I thought you would not refuse me, and therefore, I have given directions that your appointment should be made out.' A few days after," continues Dr. Baillie, "when we again waited on the king, he said to the other medical men in my presence, 'I have made Dr. Baillie my physician extraordinary against his will, but not against his heart.' On one occasion the king was advised to go to Bath, and Dr. B. recommended him to consult there a medical gentleman whom he named; the king immediately conjectured the county from whence he came, and after listening to all Dr. Baillie had to say to him, His Majesty jocosely observed, 'I suppose, Dr. Baillie, he is not a Scotchman!'"

During Baillie's latter years, when he had retired from all but consultation practice, and had ample time to attend to each individual case, he was very



deliberate, tolerant, and willing to listen to whatever was said to him by the patient; but, at an earlier period, in the hurry of great business, when his day's work, as he used to say, amounted to sixteen hours, he was sometimes rather irritable, and betrayed a want of temper in hearing the tiresome details of an unimportant story. After listening, with torture, to a pressing account from a lady, who ailed so little that she was going to the opera that evening, he had happily escaped from the room, when he was urgently requested to step up stairs again; it was to ask him whether, on her return from the opera, she might eat some oysters. "Yes, ma'am," said Baillie, "shells and all."

A few years ago, before Dr. Baillie's death, during a visit which the late Professor Gregory, of Edinburgh, made to London, these eminent physicians, equally distinguished in their separate departments, conversed together on several occasions; and the judgment they jocosely passed upon each other was expressed in the following manner: "Baillie," said the accomplished and classical professor, "knows nothing of physic." "Gregory," exclaimed the experienced and skilful London practitioner, "seems to me to know everything but physic."

Baillie was rejected at the College. He called the next day on Dr. Barrowby, who was one of the censors, and insisted upon his fighting him. Barrowby who was a little puny man, declined it. "I am only third censor," said he "in point of age—you must first call out your own countryman, Sir Hans Sloane,

our president, and when you have fought him, and two senior censors, then I shall be ready to meet you."

Many medical duels have been prevented by the difficulty of arranging the "*methodus pugnandi.*" In the instance of Dr. Brocklesby, the number of paces could not be agreed upon; and in the affair between Akenside and Ballow, one had determined never to fight in the morning, and the other that he would never fight in the afternoon.

John Wilkes, who did not stand upon ceremony in these little affairs, when asked by Lord Talbot, "How many times they were to fire?" replied "just as often as your lordship pleases; I have brought a *bag of bullets and a flask of gunpowder with me.*"

Notwithstanding Dr. Baillie's general amiability of character, the multiplicity of his professional concerns would often betray him into an irritability of temper. He frequently came home, after a day of great fatigue, and held up his hands to his family circle, eager to welcome him home, saying, "Do'nt speak to me;" and then, presently, after a glass of wine, and when the transitory cloud had cleared away from his brow, with a smile of affection, he would look round him, and exclaim, "You may speak to me now."

DR. SYDENHAM still keeps his well-earned and long-acknowledged fame amidst the modern wildness of theory and singularity of practice. "*Opinionum commenta delet dies,*" says Tully very beautifully; "*naturæ judicia confirmat.*"

Sydenham had a troop of horse when King Charles I. had made a garrison town of Oxford, and studied medicine by accidentally falling into the company of Dr. Coxe, an eminent physician, who finding him to be a man of great parts, recommended to him his own profession, and gave him directions for his method of pursuing his studies in that art. These he pursued with such success, that in a few years afterwards he became the chief physician of the metropolis.

Sir Richard Blackmore says of him, “that he built all his maxims and rules of practice upon repeated observations on the nature and properties of disease, and on the power of remedies; and that he compiled so good a history of distempers, and so prevalent a method of cure, that he has advanced the healing art more than Dr. Wallis, with all his curious speculations and fanciful hypotheses.”

In the dedication of one of his Treatises to his friend Dr. Mapletoft, Sydenham says, “that the medical art could not be learned so well and so surely as by use and experience; and that he who would pay the nicest and most accurate attention to the symptoms of distempers, would succeed best in finding out the true means of cure.” He says, afterwards, “that it was no small sanction to his method, that it was approved of by Mr. Locke, of whom he adds, “whether I consider his genius, or the acuteness and accuracy of his judgment, and his ancient (that is, the best) morals, I hardly think that I can find one superior, certainly very few that are equal to him.”



Sydenham had such confidence in exercise on horseback, that in one of his medical works he says, "that if any man was possessed of a remedy that would do equal service to the human constitution with riding gently on horseback twice a day, he would be in possession of the philosopher's stone."

The very extraordinary case mentioned by this great physician, of the cure of a most inveterate diarrhœa, in a learned prelate, by slow journies on horseback, was that of Seth Ward, the Bishop of Sarum, a great mathematician, and one of the first members of the Royal Society. It is mentioned in the life of the Bishop, by Dr. Walter Pope.

Sydenham died of the gout; and in the latter part of his life is described as visited with that dreadful disorder, and sitting near an open window, on the ground-floor of his house, in St. James's Square, respiring the cool breeze on a summer's evening, and reflecting with a serene countenance, and great complacency, on the alleviation to human misery that his skill in his art enabled him to give. Whilst this divine man was enjoying one of these delicious reveries, a thief took away from the table, near to which he was sitting, a silver tankard filled with his favorite beverage, small beer, in which a sprig of rosemary had been immersed, and ran off with it. Sydenham was too lame to ring his bell, and too feeble in his voice to give the alarm.

This great physician has been accused of discouraging students in medicine from reading works connected with their own complicated art. Sir Richard

Blackmore observes, that a man of good sense, vivacity, and spirit, may arrive to the highest rank as a physician, without the assistance of great erudition and knowledge of books ; and he tells us that this was the case with Dr. Sydenham, who became an eminent and an able physician, though he never designed to take up the profession until the civil wars were concluded ; and then, being a disbanded officer, he entered upon it for a maintenance, without any learning properly preparatory for the undertaking of it : and to show what contempt he had for the writings in physic, when one day he asked him what books he should read to qualify him for practice, Sydenham replied, “ read Don Quixote, it is a very good book, I read it still ;” so low an opinion had this celebrated man of the learning collected out of the authors, his predecessors. And the late celebrated physician Dr. Radcliffe, whose judgment was universally relied upon as almost infallible in his profession, used to say, that when he died, he would leave behind him the whole mystery of physic in half a sheet of paper. “ It is true,” says Blackmore, “ that both these doctors carried the matter much too far by vilifying learning, of which they were no masters, and perhaps for that reason.”

Sir Hans Sloane, who was very well acquainted with Sydenham, says, he never knew a man of brighter natural parts than that physician, and that he believes what is here said about Don Quixote, to be merely a joke ; and that Tully was Dr. Sydenham’s favourite author, he having a fine bust of him in his study.

SIR HANS SLOANE, the celebrated physician and naturalist, was born at Killcleugh, in the South of Ireland, in 1660. He succeeded Sir Isaac Newton as president of the Royal Society, was the founder of the British Museum, and President of the College of Physicians.

He settled in London, in the year 1684, and was in high vogue as a practitioner in Radcliffe's time, with whom he was acquainted, though they were never on good terms. He continued in great practice till the year 1746, when he retired, and died fourteen years afterwards.

On his arrival in London, Sloane waited upon Sydenham, with a letter of recommendation from a friend, setting forth his qualifications in flaming terms—"he was a ripe scholar—a good botanist—a skilful anatomist, &c."

After Sydenham had perused this eulogy, and had eyed the Tyro very attentively; he said, "all this is mighty fine; but it wont do! anatomy—botany—nonsense! Sir, I have an old woman in Covent Garden who understands botany better; as for anatomy my butcher can dissect a joint full as well:—no, young man, all this is stuff; you must go to the bedside, it is there you can alone learn disease."

Such was the first interview which the future President of the Royal Society, and successor of the great Sir Isaac Newton, had with the father of English medicine, as Sydenham has been termed.

Sydenham was subsequently very kind to Sloane, and frequently took him in his chariot to Acton and



back again before dinner—Sydenham's favourite ride. It was in one of these excursions that Sloane hinted his intention of going to Jamaica. Sydenham remained silent until the carriage stopped as usual at the Green Park, through which Sydenham and Sloane walked, when the doctor said, "you must not go—you had better drown yourself in Roxmond's pond, as you go along."

Sloane however went, and brought home a great variety of new plants. He was considered the greatest naturalist of his day, and his friendship and society were courted by all the literati of Europe. So passionately fond was he of botany, that he could not sleep comfortably without having in his bed room some scarce and beautiful plant to examine before he retired to rest, and when he arose in the morning.

Sir Hans Sloane was the first English physician who was raised to the baronetage. He was a great favourite of Queen Anne's, whom he bled in her last illness. Queen Caroline also thought highly of him, and frequently consulted him. His great scientific attainments did not act as a bar to his professional advancement. His practice was very extensive.

Sir Hans Sloane bequeathed his immense library and cabinet of curiosities to the public, on condition of parliament granting to his family the sum of £20,000. The library consisted of more than fifty-thousand volumes, three hundred and forty seven of which, were illustrated with cuts, finely engraven and coloured from nature, 3,566 manuscripts, and an infinite number of rare and curious books. The act for the pur-

pose of purchasing Sir H. Sloane's library and museum, was passed in 1753. The sum of £300,000 was raised by a lottery, which enabled parliament to effect their object. Besides the £20,000 paid for Sir Hans' collection, the Harleian manuscripts were purchased for £10,000, and a similar sum was given for Montague House, to which the library, manuscripts, and curiosities were removed. Thus originated the British Museum, now the resort of the most distinguished literary men and geniuses of the age: Sir Hans also gave to the company of apothecaries the entire freehold of the botanical garden at Chelsea.

Although Sir Hans Sloane expended a prodigious sum of money in collecting rarities, he is said to have been of a penurious disposition. At the age of ninety he complained bitterly to Dr. Mortimer, then secretary to the Royal Society, that all his friends had deserted him; upon which the doctor observed, that Chelsea was far removed from the residence of his friends. On one occasion, when Dr. Mortimer had been detained for several hours in showing Sir Hans' famous collection to some distinguished foreigners, Sloane invited him to stop to dinner, and when it appeared, it consisted of a boiled egg, and an half-starved fowl. Upon Dr. Mortimer remonstrating with Sir Hans, he put the old baronet quite out of humour—"Keep a table!" he exclaimed, "invite people to dinner! what! would you have me ruin myself? Public credit totters already; and if there should be a national bankruptcy, or a sponge to wipe out the national debt, you may yet see me in the workhouse."

DR. WOODWARD was expelled the council of the Royal Society, for an insult offered to Sir Hans, then Dr. Sloane the secretary. Sir Hans was reading a paper of his own composition, and Woodward said something greatly insulting about it. Sir Isaac Newton was in the chair when the vote for expulsion was agitated. Dr. Sloane complained that he had often affronted him by making grimaces at him; and upon that occasion Dr. Arbuthnot got up to ask what degree of distortion of the muscles of a man's face it was that constituted a grimace? Woodward, however, was expelled; and somebody having pleaded in his favour that he was a good natural philosopher, Sir Isaac Newton remarked, that in order to belong to that society, a man ought to be a good *moral philosopher, as well as a natural one.*

Woodward was an eccentric, turbulent, and vain man. Bromfield's father, who was a commissioner of the stamp office, used often to meet Woodward at Rando's coffee-house. Woodward was one day wondering how the great lived so long as they did, considering their luxurious mode of living—"to day," says he for instance, "I dined with the archbishop of Canterbury, and the venison was so rich, that I feel myself much disordered by it." A wag who overheard the conversation, and who had seen the doctor that day at dinner at a chop-house, cried out, "you and I doctor ate off the same haunch; only a very thin partition parted us."



Dr. W. WOODVILLE flourished in the year 1791. He wrote a celebrated work on botany, and was physician to the small-pox hospital. He was engaged in a controversy with Dr. Jenner respecting the efficacy of the vaccine virus. The characteristics of his genius were judgment, caution, and prudence. He has been accused of intemperate habits; but this has been most positively denied.

Medical men are said to meet their end with composure. When Dr. Woodville was supposed to be dangerously ill, his friends called upon him and endeavoured to excite his hopes of recovery: "I am not so silly," said the doctor, "as to mind what they say; I know my own case too well, and that I am dying: a younger person with a better stamina, might think it hard to die, but why should I regret to leave such a diseased worn-out carcase as mine?" The carpenter with whom he lodged, had not been always on the best terms with Woodville. The physician said he should wish to let the man see that he died in peace with him; and as he had never much occasion to employ him, desired he might be sent for to measure him for his coffin. This was accordingly done; the carpenter came, and took the measure of the doctor, who begged him not to be more than two days about it, "for" said he, "I shall not live beyond that time;" and he did actually die just before the end of the next day. He got between one or two thousand pounds by his "Medical Botany," and with the money bought a small estate, which he left to his natural daughter, being all the property he possessed.

Dr. WILLIAM HUNTER was one of the most distinguished scientific physicians of his day. He was originally destined for the church, but having formed the friendship of the illustrious Dr. Cullen, he resolved to embrace the profession of physic. A conversation took place one evening after Dr. Cullen had finished his arduous labours of the day, relating to the respective positions of the members of the medical and clerical profession, Hunter taking one side, and Dr. Cullen the other. The question was, which produced the greater amount of mental pleasure. During the conversation, a message came for Cullen to attend immediately a patient represented to be dangerously ill. "Come with me, Hunter," said the doctor, "and I will introduce you to the sick chamber." Conjointly they visited the sick man's habitation. Cullen found his patient labouring under a serious attack of *gastritis*, attended with excruciating agony. The friends of the invalid were in the greatest apprehension that if relief was not instantly administered, death would ensue. Cullen directly ordered copious general and local bleeding, with medicines which he thought necessary. The patient was bled, and Cullen and Hunter waited anxiously to witness the result. A mitigation of the urgent symptoms was the effect of the remedies had recourse to, and expressions of deep and lasting gratitude were showered down upon the physician's head. This appeared to make a due impression on Hunter's mind, and he exclaimed to Cullen, as they were going home, "Yours is indeed a noble science, and I will devote my existence in at-

tempting to enlarge its boundaries." Thus commenced this great man's career. In after life he distinguished himself as an anatomist, physiologist, a lecturer, and an accoucheur. The splendid museum attached to the University of Glasgow, is a lasting monument to his fame. He was a fellow of the Royal Society, President of the Medical Society, and Accoucheur to the Middlesex Hospital and British Lying-in Hospital. He had the honour of attending the Queen in her *accouchement*, and he was of course appointed Physician Extraordinary to her Majesty. He contributed several valuable additions to medical literature, particularly in reference to the branch of science which he practised. A short period before he died, he rose from his bed to deliver an introductory lecture on the Operations of Surgery, in opposition to the earnest remonstrances of his friends. The lecture was accordingly delivered, but it was his last. Towards the conclusion, his strength was so much exhausted that he fainted away, and was finally replaced in his chamber, which he had been so eager to quit. Turning to his friend Combe, in his latter moments, he observed, "If I had strength enough to hold a pen, I would write how easy and pleasant a thing it is to die." His death took place on the 30th of March, 1783.

Dr. William Hunter used to relate the following anecdote:—During the American war he was consulted by the daughter of a peer, who confessed herself *enceinte* and requested his assistance. He advised her to retire for a time to the house of some confidential friend. She said that was impossible, as her father would not



suffer her to be absent from him a single day. Some of the servants were, therefore, let into the secret, and the doctor made arrangements with the treasurer of the Foundling Hospital, for the reception of the child, for which he was to pay £100. The lady was desired to weigh well if she could bear pain without alarming the family by her cries. She said "Yes;" and she kept her word. At the usual period she was delivered, not of one child only, but of twins! The doctor, carrying the two children, was conducted by a French servant through the kitchen, and left to ascend the area steps into the street. Luckily the lady's-maid recollected that the door of the area might, perhaps, be locked, and she followed the doctor just in time to prevent his being detained at the gate. He deposited the children at the Foundling Hospital, and paid for each £100. The father was a Colonel of the army, who went with his regiment to America, and died there. The mother afterwards married a person of her own rank.

We must not omit, in our enumeration of Medical Philanthropists, the name of HAWES, the founder of that excellent institution, the *Humane Society*.

Dr. Hawes was born at Islington, and received his classical education at St. Paul's school. In 1773 he became very popular, owing to his incessant zeal in calling the attention of the public to the resuscitation of persons apparently dead, principally by drowning.

In this laudable attempt he encountered much opposition and ridicule. The practicability of resuscitation was denied. He ascertained, however, its feasibility. He advertised rewards to persons who should, within a certain time after any accident, between Westminster and London Bridges, rescue apparently drowned persons from the water, and bring them ashore to places appointed for their reception, where means might be used for their recovery, on their giving immediate notice to him. The public mind being thus awakened to the subject, greater exertions were made by individuals than had ever been before known; and many lives were saved by himself and other medical men. Mr. Hawes, at his own expense, paid the rewards in these cases for twelve months, which amounted to a considerable sum. His excellent friend, Dr. Cogan, who had long turned his attention to this subject, remonstrated with him on the injury which his private fortune would sustain from a perseverance in these expenses, and he at last consented to share them with the public. Dr. Cogan and he agreed to join their strength, and each of them bringing forward fifteen friends to a meeting at the Chapter Coffee-house, in 1774, the Humane Society was instantly formed.

The late Dr. GLOVER, of convivial memory, though regularly bred to physic and surgery, was for a short period in his early life an actor on the Dublin stage, during which time he conceived the idea that many persons, in a state of suspended animation, might, by

proper and timely treatment, be restored to society. The doctor was so confident of his opinion being well-founded, that he laid a wager with a brother comedian, that the first malefactor who was executed he would restore to life. The bet was accepted, and a few days after the doctor had an opportunity of proving that he was right, on the apparently dead body of a man who was hanged for a robbery. He was, however, rather unfortunate in the choice of his subject; for the following day the fellow having discovered the doctor's lodgings, and being introduced into the apartment where he was sitting, the resuscitated criminal, accosting the preserver of his life by the familiar appellation of "*Father*," said, that as he had restored him to existence, it was his duty to support him as his son, and this he should expect him to do. The singularity of the application so amazed the doctor, that it was some time before he recovered his powers sufficiently to enable him to expel him *vi et armis* from the room. Nothing daunted by his reception, he visited the theatre that evening, and harranged the audience from the gallery, whilst the doctor was acting. Wherever the poor doctor went, his resuscitated friend followed him, demanding a settlement for life. At last Dr. Glover was compelled, in order to get rid of his *hopeful heir*, to offer to advance him a sum of money if he would leave the kingdom. This was accordingly agreed to.

DR. GEORGE FORDYCE was one of the most emi-



ment and successful lecturers of his day. He was the friend and companion of Dr. Cullen, whom he termed "his learned and revered master." He was much censured for his intemperate habits. He frequently has been known to have been up all night, and to have lectured to his class for three hours the next morning, without having undressed himself. He had a most retentive memory.

He read but little, but what he did read he remembered. His appearance was by no means prepossessing. His countenance was dull and heavy, and not at all indicative of his mind.

This celebrated lecturer dined every day for more than twenty years at Dolly's chop-house. His researches in comparative anatomy had led him to conclude, that man, through custom, eats oftener than nature requires, one meal a day being sufficient for that noble animal the Lion. At four o'clock, his accustomed hour of dining, the doctor regularly took the seat at the table always reserved for him, on which was placed a silver tankard full of strong ale, a bottle of port wine, and a measure containing a quarter of a pint of brandy. The moment the waiter announced him, the cook put a pound and a half of rump steak on the gridiron, and on the table some delicate trifle, as a *bonne bouche*, to serve until the steak was ready. This, was some times half a boiled chicken, sometimes a plate of fish: when he had eaten this, he took one glass of brandy, and then proceeded to devour his steak. When he had finished his meal, he took the remainder of his brandy, having during his

dinner drank the tankard of ale, and afterwards a bottle of port! He thus daily spent an hour and a half of his time, and then returned to his house in Essex Street, to give his six o'clock lecture on chemistry. He made no other meal until his return, at four o'clock next day, to Dolly's.

When Fordyce was near his latter end, he desired his youngest daughter, who was sitting by his bedside, to take up a book and read to him; she read for about twenty minutes, when the doctor said, "stop, go out of the room, I am going to die." She put down the book, and left the chamber to call an attendant, who immediately went into the bed room, and found Fordyce had breathed his last.

DR GEORGE CHEYNE, the author of the celebrated work, entitled "The English Malady," graduated at Edinburgh. He was originally intended for the Church, but abandoned the study of theology for medicine, after having heard Dr. Pitcairn's lectures. In his autobiography he says: "when coming up to London, I all of a sudden, changed my whole manner of living. I found the bottle companions, the younger gentry, and free livers, to be the most easy of access, or most quickly susceptible of friendship and acquaintance; nothing being necessary for that purpose but to be able to eat lustily, and to swallow down much liquor." The doctor, found, however, that his health became seriously affected, and

he accordingly resolved to change his mode of living. He adopted a milk and vegetable diet, and recovered his strength, activity, and cheerfulness.

He died at Bath, in 1743, where he had been for a long period, in rather extensive practice. Among his patients, was the celebrated Beau Nash; who on being asked one day, by Cheyne, if he had followed his last prescription, replied in the negative; adding, "If I had, doctor, I should certainly have broken my neck, for I threw it out of a two pair of stairs' window."

A lady, whose fondness for generous living, had given her a flushed face and carbuncled nose, consulted Dr. Cheyne. Upon surveying herself in the glass she exclaimed, "where in the name of wonder, doctor, did I get such a nose as this?" "out of the decanter, Madam, out of the decanter," replied the doctor.

A patient, accompanied by Beau Nash visited Dr. Cheyne, for the purpose of ascertaining the cause of a slight abdominal swelling, under which he was labouring. On examining the patient, the doctor pronounced the swelling to be occasioned by a collection of water, and that it would be necessary to be tapped. "It cannot be water," said the patient, "it may be wine." "No, no, my good fellow," said Nash, "if it had been wine, you would long before this, have tapped it yourself."

Dr. Cheyne always enforced the doctrines he taught by his personal example. This conduct created him



a host of enemies, who attacked, but never defeated, their intrepid antagonist; and the following *jeu d'esprit*, though often related, proves the assertion.

DR. WINTER TO DR. CHEYNE, BATH.

“ Tell me whence fat-headed Scott!  
 Thy system thou didst learn ;  
 From Hippocrates, thou hadst it not,  
 Nor Celsus, nor Pitcairn.

“ What, though we own that milk is good,\*  
 And say the same of grass,  
 The one—for babes is proper food,  
 The other—for an ass.

“ Doctor, a new prescription try—  
 A friend's advice forgive ;  
 Eat grass—reduce your head—or die,  
 Your patients then may live.”

DR. CHEYNE'S REPLY.

“ My system, doctor, 's all my own,  
 No tutor I pretend ;  
 My blunders hurt myself alone,  
 But yours—your dearest friend.

\* Dr. Cheyne wrote a treatise, in which he recommends to invalids a milk diet.

“ Were you once more to straw confined,  
How happy it might be—  
You would, perhaps, regain your mind,  
Or from your *wit* get free.

“ I can't your new prescription try,  
But easily forgive ;  
'Tis nat'ral you should bid me die,  
That you yourself may live.”

Dr. Cheyne and Tadlow were exceedingly corpulent men, but the last was much the larger. Cheyne coming into a coffee-house one morning, and observing Tadlow alone and pensive, asked him what occasioned his melancholy. “ Cheyne,” said he, “ I have a very serious thought come athwart me : I am considering how the people will be able to get you and me to the grave when we die.” “ Why,” said Cheyne, “ six or or eight strong fellows may take me there at once ; but it is certain that *you* must be carried there at *twice*.”

In Dr. Cheyne's “ English Malady,” we find the extraordinary case of Colonel Townshend related, which being singular we shall insert in the doctor's own words. “ Colonel Townshend, a gentleman of excellent natural parts, and of great honour and integrity, had for many years been afflicted with a nephritic complaint which made his life miserable. During one of his attacks of illness he sent for Dr. Baynard and myself : we waited upon him with Mr. Skrine his

apothecary. We found his senses clear and mind calm : his nurse and several servants were about him. He had made his will and settled his affairs. He told us he had sent for us to give some account of an odd sensation he had for some time observed and felt within himself; which was, that composing himself he could die or expire whenever he pleased, *by an effort of the will*, and, by another effort, could come to life again, which it seems he had sometimes tried before he had sent for us: we heard this with surprise, but as it was to be accounted for on no common principles, we could hardly believe the facts he related to us, much less give any account of it, unless he should please to make the experiment before us, which we were unwilling he should do, lest in his weak condition, he might carry it too far. He continued to talk very distinctly and sensibly for above a quarter of an hour, about this surprising sensation, and insisted so much on our seeing the trial made, that we were at last forced to comply. We all three felt his pulse first, it was distinct, although small and steady; and his heart had its usual beating. He composed himself on his back, and lay in a still posture for some time: while I held his right hand, Dr. Baynard laid his hand on his heart, and Mr. Skrine held a clean looking-glass to his mouth. I found his pulse sink gradually, until at last I could not feel any, by the most exact and nice touch; Dr. Baynard could not feel the least motion in his heart, nor Mr. Skrine perceive the least soil of breath on the bright mirror he held to his mouth: then each of us by turns examined his arm, heart, and breath,



but could not by the nicest scrutiny discover the least symptom of life in him. We reasoned a long time about his odd appearance as well as we could, and all of us judging it inexplicable and unaccountable, and finding he still continued in that condition, we began to conclude that he had indeed carried the experiment too far, and at last were satisfied he was actually dead, and were just ready to leave him. This continued for half an hour. As we were leaving, we observed some motion about the body; and, upon examination, we found his pulse and the motion of the heart gradually returning: he began to breathe gently and to speak softly, and after some conversation with him we left him. He afterwards sent for his attorney, added a codicil to his will, settled legacies on his servants, received the sacrament, and calmly and composedly expired about five or six o'clock that evening."

DR. WILLIAM HARVEY conferred upon the science of medicine, by his discovery of the circulation of the blood, the same service which the immortal Newton rendered to optics and astronomy, by his theories of light and gravitation.

Harvey was educated at a grammar school in Canterbury, and subsequently he entered Cambridge University. In 1602 he took his degree of M.D. at Padua, when he was only twenty-four years of age. Harvey was engaged twenty-six years in prosecuting his enquiries into the circulation of the blood, and in bringing his great work to maturity. When his dis-

covery was made known, he was treated by his adversaries with contempt and reproach. To an intimate friend he confessed, that after his book of the circulation came out, he fell considerably in his practice, and it was believed by the vulgar that he was crack-brained: all his contemporary physicians were against his opinions, and envied him the fame he was likely to acquire by his discovery. That reputation he did, however, ultimately enjoy: about twenty-five years after the publication of his system, it was received in all the Universities of the world: and Hobbes has observed, that "Harvey was the only man, perhaps, who ever lived to see his own doctrines established in his life-time."

The original MSS. of Harvey's lectures are preserved in the British Museum; and some very curious preparations, which either he himself made at Padua, or procured from that celebrated school of medicine, and which most probably he exhibited to his class, during his course of lectures on the circulation, are now in the College of Physicians; they consist of six tables or boards, upon which are spread the different nerves or blood-vessels, carefully dissected out of the body: in one of them the semilunar valves of the aorta are distinctly to be seen. Now these valves, placed at the origin of the arteries, must, together with the valves of the veins, have furnished Harvey with the most striking and conclusive arguments in support of his novel doctrines.

During Harvey's stay at Oxford he became acquainted with a young physician, Dr. Charles Scarbo-

rough, who was afterwards knighted by Charles II. Harvey delighted much in the conversation of Scarborough, who was, however, in those troublesome times, much disposed to neglect his medical studies for the more brilliant profession of arms. To check this military ardour, Harvey took the young doctor, and accommodated him with a lodging in his own apartment, saying, "Prithee, leave off thy gunning, and stay here; I will bring thee into practice."

"When I was at Padua in 1787," says Dr. Moseley "I looked for the arms of the great Harvey, among a multitude which adorn the public hall of the University; but his were not there. There were several of the English, of his standing. It was the custom at Padua, for every person who had taken a doctor's degree, to have his arms and name hung up in the University, when he went away.

"After such a lapse of time, it was not likely that I should obtain any anecdotes concerning him at Padua; but I did not omit to inquire. Among other things, on which I could obtain no additional information, was the tradition of the extraordinary preservation of his life, in the commencement of his journey to Padua; in which there appeared an interposition of something more than human intelligence.

"When Harvey arrived at Dover, with several other young men, in order to embark for the continent, in their way to Italy, they went with their passports to Sir Henry Brooke, then commanding at Dover Castle. When Harvey presented his passport, Sir Henry told him he should not go; but must remain his pri-



soner Harvey desired to know the reason, and to be informed what offence he had committed. The Governor replied it was his pleasure; and gave him no further satisfaction. In the evening, which was beautifully clear, the packet sailed with Harvey's companions on board. In the night there arose a terrible storm, in which the vessel was lost, and all on board perished.

“The next day the melancholy news was brought to Dover. The Governor then explained himself to Harvey, whom he knew only by sight. He told him that, on the night before his arrival, he had a perfect vision of him in a dream, coming to Dover to cross over to Calais; and that he had a warning to stop him. Great and glorious, indeed, was the use which Harvey made of a life so miraculously protected!

Harvey was a great martyr to the gout, and his method of treating himself was as follows:—“He would sit with his legs bare, even if it were frosty, on the leads of Cochine House, where he lived for some time with his brother Eliab, or put them into a pail of water until he was almost dead with cold; and then he would betake himself to his stove. He was troubled with insomnolency, to cure which he would rise in the night, and walk about his chamber in his shirt until he began to shiver, and then he would return to his bed.”

Harvey died worth £20,000.

Dr. JOHN FRIEND, the author of the “History of

Medicine," which was written during his confinement in the Tower, was born in 1675. After his liberation he was appointed physician to the Prince of Wales; on whose accession to the throne he became physician to the Queen.

Friend, who was generally what is termed mellow after dinner, was once sent for in this state, to a family of consequence; but the family not choosing to trust to his prescription, sent for Dr. Mead, who came, and, after looking at what Friend had written, took the opportunity of paying him a very high compliment. "'Pon my word," said Mead, "if Dr. Friend wrote this when he was drunk, he prescribes better than I can do when sober."

It should be recollected that intemperance was the common vice of the age; and physicians not being exempted from the frailties of the flesh, occasionally indulged in "potations pottle deep."

Dr. Beauford, a Jacobite physician, was much addicted to this vice. He was a man, however, of great eminence, and intimate with Lord Barrymore, who was thought to favour the Pretender, in 1745, and Beauford was taken up and examined by the privy-council. He was asked if he knew Lord Barrymore? "Yes."—"You are often with him?" "Very often dine with him."—"And what do you talk about?" "Eating and drinking; nothing but eating and drinking." And this was all they could get out of him: so he was dismissed.

The same Dr. Beauford, used to dine every week, on a particular day, at a tavern in Finch Lane.

Apothecaries used to come and consult him, but no one was ever allowed to drink out of his bottle. Many whimsical anecdotes are recorded of this physician, who was desirous of passing himself off for a wit.—“Why do you not admire my daughter?” said a lady to the doctor, “Because,” said he, “I am no judge of *painting*.” “But, surely,” rejoined the lady, not the least disconcerted by this rude reflection, “you never saw an angel that was *not* painted!”

The following anecdote of the illness of Bishop Newton, whom Dr. Friend attended, may prove interesting:—

He says, in his autobiography, that he was seized with a violent pleuretic fever—his illness cost him seven hundred and fifty guineas for physicians, and his cure was at last effected by *small beer*. Dr. Hope, Dr. Swynsen, and other physicians from Stafford, Lichfield, and Derby, were called in, and had two hundred and fifty guineas of the money. Dr. Friend came down post from London, with Mrs. Pulteney, and received three hundred guineas for his journey. Dr. Broxholme came from Oxford, and received two hundred guineas. When these physicians, who were his particular friends, arrived, they found the case quite desperate, and gave him entirely over. They said every thing had been done that could be done. They prescribed some few medicines, but without the least effect. He was still alive, and was heard to mutter, in a low voice, “Small beer,” “Small beer!” They said, give him small beer, or anything. Accordingly a great silver cup was brought, which con-



tained two quarts of small beer. They ordered an orange to be squeezed into it, and gave it to him. He drank the whole at a draught, and called for another. Another was given him, and, soon after drinking that, he fell into a most profound sleep, and a most profuse sweat for nearly twenty-two hours. In him the saying was verified, "*If he sleep he shall do well.*" From that time he recovered marvellously, insomuch that, in a few days, the physicians took their leave, saying that, "Now he had no want of anything but a horse for his doctor, and an ass for his apothecary."

Friend died in the year 1728. The following lines are from the pen of Samuel Wesley :—

"When Radcliffe fell, afflicted Physic cried,  
'How vain my powers!' and languished at his side.  
When Friend expired, deep struck, her hair she tore,  
And, speechless, fainted, and reviv'd no more.  
Her flowing grief no further could extend;  
She mourns with Radcliffe, but she dies with Friend."

Dr. JOHN ARBUTHNOT was Queen Anne's favorite physician, the friend of Swift and Pope. It is said that he possessed all the wit of the Dean, without any of his virulence and indelicacy; and a considerable portion of the genius of Pope, without his querulous discontent. When a young man he attempted to settle as a physician, at Dorchester, a town remarkable for its healthy situation, a circumstance unpropitious to the profitable practice of physic. On quitting it, a friend

met him riding post to London. "Where are you going, Arbuthnot?" asked his friend. "To leave your confounded place, for a man can neither live nor die there," replied Arbuthnot.

Arbuthnot affords a striking instance how little misfortune can derange or exhaust the internal resources of a good man; for, "I am as well," said he, in a letter written a few weeks before he died, "as a man can be, who is gasping for breath, and has a house full of men and women unprovided for." Every branch of his family, however, passed through life with competence and honour.

The great have always been flattered, but never was adulation carried farther than on the part of Dr. Arbuthnot to Queen Anne. The Queen, having asked him what the time was, he replied, bowing with much grace, "Whatever it may please your Majesty."

Arbuthnot was distinguished as a wit; and, as a successful dramatic writer. During his time, Gulliver's Travels made their appearance, and he relates several amusing instances of the effect which this celebrated piece of satire had on the public mind.

Dr. Arbuthnot says, that Lord Scarborough (who was no inventor of stories) told him, that he happened to be in company with a master of a ship, who said, that "he was very well acquainted with Mr. Gulliver: but that the printer had made a mistake, for it was at *Wapping*, and *not at Rotherhithe*, that the Captain lived."

In another place, Dr. Arbuthnot says: "I lent

Gulliver's Travels to an old gentleman to read; who, putting on his spectacles, went very deliberately to his map to look for "*Lilliput*."

Mr. Fortescue (afterwards Master of the Rolls,) when a lawyer on the Western Circuit, wrote a letter to Mr. Pope, in the year 1727, stating that "One Lemud Gulliver had a cause there, and lost it on the ill-reputation he had acquired of being a most notorious liar:" and an Irish judge told some person of Swift's acquaintance, very gravely, that he looked upon the whole of Gulliver's Travels, (*whatever other persons might think of them,*) to be one continued heap of improbable lies.

We should be guilty of a great dereliction of duty were we to omit to give a sketch of the life of Dr. EDWARD JENNER, the immortal discoveror of vaccination. The name of this physician certainly deserves a place among the great and illustrious benefactors of the human race. The history of Jenner, it is observed, exhibits the life-long efforts of a man of philosophical character and constant habits of observation, catching a glimpse, early in his professional life, of a truth of the highest pathological importance, connected with a discovery of amazing benefit to mankind; we see him keeping this object in view, clearing away the obstacles between him and it, regarding the question on every side, and submitting it with equal industry, candour, and simplicity of mind, to the inspection of every eye; and labouring incessantly for its establishment when fully convinced of its real and incalculable value, despite of cold disre-



gard and vehement opposition, misrepresentation, calumny, and ridicule; but sometimes with the cheering sympathy of noble minds and the approving judgment of some of the first men of his time.

The first intimation received by Jenner of the possible existence of a disease communicated by contact with the cow, and capable of protecting the affected individual from the occurrence of small-pox, was given to him when he was an apprentice with a surgeon at Sodbury.

He was pursuing his professional education in the house of his master, when a young woman came to seek advice; the subject of small-pox was mentioned in her presence; she immediately observed, "I cannot take that disease, for I have had cow-pox." This incident rivetted the attention of Jenner, and made an impression on his mind which was never effaced.

Sir Isaac Newton, unfolded his doctrine of light and colours before he was twenty; Bacon wrote his "*Temporis Partus Maximus*" before he attained that age; Montesquieu had sketched his "Spirit of Laws," at an equally early period of life; and Jenner, when he was still younger, contemplated the possibility of removing from among the list of human diseases one of the most mortal that ever scourged our race.

As far back as the year 1775, Dr. Jenner had begun to investigate the nature of the cow-pox. His attention to this singular disease was first excited, in addition to the circumstance just related, by observing, that among those whom in the country he was

frequently called upon to inoculate, many resisted every effort to give them the small-pox. These patients he found had undergone a disorder contracted by milking cows affected with a peculiar eruption on their teats. On enquiry, it appeared that this disease had been known among the dairies from time immemorial, and that a vague opinion prevailed of its being a preventive of the small-pox. This opinion, however, was comparatively new, for all the old farmers declared they had no such idea in early days, which was easily accounted for, as the common people were rarely inoculated for the small-pox, till the practice became extended by the improved method of the Suttons; so that the people in the dairies were seldom put to the test of the preventive powers of the cow-pox.

In the course of *his* investigations, Dr. Jenner found that some of those who seemed to have undergone the cow-pox, on inoculation with variolous matter, felt its influence just the same as if no disease had been communicated from the cow. On making inquiries on the subject among the medical practitioners in his neighbourhood, they all agreed that the cow-pox was not to be relied upon as a preventive of the small-pox. This for a while damped, but did not extinguish his ardour; for, as he proceeded, he had the satisfaction of learning that the cow was subject to some varieties of spontaneous eruptions upon her teats; that they were all capable of communicating sores to the hands of the milkers; and that whatever sore was derived from the animal

obtained the general name of the cow-pox. Thus a great obstacle was surmounted, and in consequence a distinction was discovered between the true and the spurious cow-pox.

But the first impediment to this inquiry had not been long removed before another, of greater magnitude, started up. There were not wanting instances to prove, that when the true cow-pox broke out among the cattle, a person who had milked the infected animal, and had thereby apparently gone through the disease in common with others, was yet liable to receive the small-pox. This gave a painful check to the fond and aspiring hopes of Jenner; till, reflecting that the operations of nature are generally uniform, and that it was not probable the human constitution, after undergoing the cow-pox, should in some instances be perfectly shielded from the small-pox, and in others remain unprotected, he determined to renew his laborious investigation of the subject. The result was fortunate: for he now discerned that the virus of the cow-pox was liable to undergo progressive changes, from the same causes precisely as that of small-pox; and that when applied to the human skin in a degenerated state, it would produce the ulcerative effects in as great a degree as when it was not decomposed, and even sometimes greater; but that when its specific properties were lost, it was incapable of producing that change upon the human frame which is requisite to render it unsusceptible of the variolous contagion: so that it became evident a person might milk a cow one day, and



having caught the disease, be for ever secure ; while on another person, milking the same cow the next day, the virus might act in such a way as to produce sores, and yet leave the constitution unchanged, and therefore unprotected.

During this investigation of the casual cow-pox, as received by contact with the animal, our inquirer was struck with the idea that it might be practicable to propagate the disease by inoculation, after the manner of the small-pox, first from the cow, and finally from one human being to another. He waited anxiously some time for an opportunity of putting this theory to the test. At length the period of trial arrived ; and on the 14th of May, 1796, the first experiment was made upon a lad of the name of Phipps, in whose arm a little vaccine virus was inserted, taken from the hand of a young woman, of the name of Sarah Nelmes, who had been accidentally infected by a cow. Notwithstanding the resemblance which the pustule, thus excited in the boy's arm, bore to variolous inoculation, yet as the indisposition attending it was barely perceptible, the operator could scarcely persuade himself that his patient was secure from the small pox. However, on the same boy being inoculated on the 1st of July following with small-pox matter, it proved that he was perfectly safe. This case inspired confidence ; and, as soon as a supply of proper virus could be obtained from the cow, arrangements were made for a series of inoculations. A number of children were inoculated in succession,

one from the other; and after several months had elapsed, they were exposed to the infection of the small-pox, some by inoculation, others by variolous effluvia, and some in both ways; but they all resisted it. The result of these trials gradually led to a wider field of experiment; and when at length it was satisfactorily proved that the inoculated cow-pox afforded as complete a security against the small-pox as the variolous inoculation, the author of the discovery made it known to the public, without either disguise or ostentation. This treatise, entitled "An Inquiry into the Causes and Effects of the Variolæ Vaccinæ, a disease discovered in some of the Western Counties of England, particularly Gloucestershire, and known by the name of the Cow-pox," appeared in 1798, in a small quarto of seventy-five pages.

It was not until the year 1780, that Dr. Jenner communicated to his friend, Edward Gardner, his hopes and fears respecting the great object of his pursuit. He was riding with this gentleman, on the road between Gloucester and Bristol, near Newport, when the conversation alluded to took place. Jenner went over the natural history of cow-pox; stated his opinion as to the origin of this affection from the heel of the horse; specified the different sorts of disease which attacked the milkers when they handled infected cows; dwelt upon that variety which afforded protection against the small-pox; and with deep and anxious emotion, mentioned his hope of being able to propagate that variety from one human being to

another, till he had disseminated the practice all over the globe, to the total extinction of small-pox. The conversation was concluded by Jenner in words to the following effect: "Gardiner, I have intrusted a most important matter to you, which I firmly believe will prove of essential benefit to the human race. I know you, and should not wish what I have stated to be brought into conversation; for should any thing untoward turn up in my experiments, I should be made, particularly by my medical brethren, the subject of ridicule—for I am the mark they all shoot at."

Dr. Jenner, in promulgating his great discovery had many difficulties to encounter, and prejudices to remove. He was not, however, easily discouraged. In spite of all opposition, which at one time assumed a formidable character, he clearly established the truth of his principles, and induced the profession and the public to pay him that homage which he was so justly entitled to expect. So highly did the legislature think of the value of Jenner's discovery, that in July, 1807, parliament voted him the sum of £20,000. The practice of vaccination was not confined to medical men, for many clergymen were in the habit of performing the operation. Rowland Hill, the late eminent preacher, ably defended Dr. Jenner's discovery against its opponents. "This," he said, "is the very thing for me;" and wherever he went to preach, he announced after his sermon, "I am ready to vaccinate to-morrow morning, as many children as you choose; and if you wish them to escape that horrid disease, the small-pox, you will



bring them." Once a week he inoculated the children who were brought to him from Wotton and the neighbourhood; and it is well known that one of the most effective vaccine boards in London, was established, and still continues in operation, at Surrey Chapel. Mr. Hill once introduced Jenner to a nobleman, in these terms: "Allow me to present to your lordship my friend, Dr. Jenner, who has been the means of saving more lives than any other man." "Ah!" said Jenner, "would I, like you, could say *souls*."\*

Dr. Baron says, that in a visit which he paid to Jenner, he showed him the hide of the cow that afforded the matter which infected Sarah Nelmes, and from which source he derived the virus that produced the disease in his first patient, Phipps. The hide hung in the coach-house: he said, "what shall I do with it?" "I replied, (says Dr. Baron) send it to the British Museum." The cow had been turned out to end her days peaceably at Broadstone, a farm near Berkeley.

Dr. Jenner often alluded to the effects of his discovery on some of his sapient townsfolk. One lady, of no mean influence among them, met him soon after the publication of his Inquiry. She accosted him in this form, and in true Gloucestershire dialect. "So your book is out at last. Well! I can tell you that there be'ant a copy sold in our town; nor sha'nt, neither, if I can help it." On another occasion, the same notable dame having heard some rumours of

\* Sidney's Life of R. Hill.

failures in vaccination, came to the doctor with great eagerness, and said, "Shan't us have a general inoculation now?" These anecdotes Jenner related in perfect good humour.

The celebrated Charles Fox, during a residence at Cheltenham, had frequent intercourse with Jenner. His mind had been a good deal poisoned as to the character of cow-pox by his family physician Moseley. In his usual playful and engaging manner, he said one day to Jenner, "Pray, Dr. Jenner, tell me of this cow-pox that we have heard so much about:—what is it like?" "Why, it is exactly like the section of a pearl on a rose-leaf." This comparison, which is not less remarkable for its accuracy than for its poetic beauty, struck Mr. Fox very forcibly.

In the drawing-room of St. James's he chanced to overhear a noble lord, who was high in office, mentioning his name, and repeating the idle calumny which had been propagated concerning his own want of confidence in vaccination. He with great promptitude and decision, refuted the charge and abashed the reporter. His person was not known to the noble Lord, but with entire composure he advanced to his lordship, and looking fully in his face, calmly observed, "I am Dr. Jenner." The effect of this well-timed rebuke was instantaneous. The noble lord, though "made of sterner stuff" than most men, immediately retired, and left Jenner in possession of the field.

The great opponent of vaccination was Dr. Moseley, physician to the Chelsea Hospital and to the prime

minister. The doctor saw, in distinct prospect, an awful aggravation of human ills from the admixture of humours with the "cow-mania," as he termed it. Cases were published in which vaccinated persons became covered with hair, and even exhibited horns and a tail; and that of a child was cited, whose natural disposition was so brutified that it ran on all fours, bellowing like a bull. Jenner was ridiculed in various publications; squibs and satires were resorted to in order to prejudice the public mind against vaccination. He was caricatured riding on a cow.

The following lines appeared on the subject.

" Oh, Moseley ! thy book nightly phantasies rousing,  
 Full oft makes me quake for my heart's dearest treasure ;  
 For fancy, in dreams, oft presents them all brousing  
 On commons, just like little Nebuchadnezzar.  
*There*, nibbling at thistle, stand Jem, Joe, and Mary,  
 On their foreheads, O horrible ! crumpled horns bud ;  
*There* Tom with his tail, and poor William all hairy,  
 Reclined in a corner, are chewing the cud."

In the early part of Jenner's career he is said to have amused himself by extemporaneous versification, chiefly facetious and epigrammatic; of which the following specimen, which a lady received from him with a couple of ducks, has been preserved :

" I've dispatched, my dear madam, this scrap of a letter,  
 To say that Miss ——— is very much better ;  
 A regular doctor no longer she lacks,  
 And, therefore, I've sent her a couple of quacks."



The last words which this eminent philanthropist uttered, were to the following effect: "I do not marvel that men are grateful to me; but I am surprised that they do not feel gratitude to God for making me a medium of good."

Dr. Jenner died suddenly of apoplexy, on the 26th of January, 1823. The following lines are engraven on his monument.

"Within this tomb hath found a resting place,  
The great physician of the human race—  
Immortal Jenner! whose gigantic mind  
Brought life and health to more than half mankind.  
Let rescued infancy his worth proclaim,  
And lisp out blessings on his honoured name!  
And radiant beauty drop her saddest tear,  
For beauty's truest, trustiest friend lies here."

The illustrious DR. JAMES GREGORY succeeded Cullen in the chair of the Practice of Medicine, at the University of Edinburgh, in the year 1776, at the early age of twenty-three. For above thirty years he annually taught the medical students the most important part of their professional duties; and an admiration of his abilities, and reverence for his character, extended as far as the English language was spoken, and as far as the light of civilization had spread in the world. His celebrated work *Conspectus Medicinæ Theoreticæ* remains to this day a standard authority with medical men.

Great, however, as was his reputation as a professor, as a man of science and literature, it was yet inferior

to that which his character had acquired among his own personal friends. Descended by the father's side from a long and memorable line of ancestors, among whom the friend and contemporary of Newton is remembered—and by the mother's, from one of the most ancient noble families of Scotland—his character was early formed on an elevated model; and throughout his whole life he combined, in a degree seldom equalled, the studies and acquirements of a man of science, with the taste and honourable feeling of a high-born gentleman. His society was sought after by the first persons of rank and eminence in this country. The brilliancy of his wit, and the epigrammatic force of his conversation was long remembered by those who had the good fortune to enjoy his acquaintance. To the poorer classes his advice was at all times afforded gratuitously.

Among the many amusing illustrations with which Dr. Gregory enlivened his lectures, he used to relate the following remarkable case of loss of memory. He wrote to a gentleman in the country, with whom he was acquainted, to come to Edinburgh to attend the funeral of a mutual friend. The gentleman obeyed the summons; but when he arrived at the doctor's house, he had totally forgotten the object of his visit. A few hours afterwards, hearing some one mention the doctor's name, he said he was very glad to hear that the doctor was in Edinburgh, forgetting that he had just parted from him. When in London, he forgot the place where his lodgings were, and it was with great difficulty that he again reached his

home. After this, he always carried about with him, fastened to his coat, a piece of paper with his name and place of abode written upon it.—Another anecdote which the Doctor used to relate, may serve as a caution to his less-experienced brethren. A gentleman, whose temper had been irritated by some occurrence that had taken place in his family, locked himself up in his dining room. After waiting several hours, the family became alarmed, and bursting open the door, discovered the unfortunate gentleman lying on the floor insensible. A physician was sent for, who immediately directed the patient's head to be shaved, and applied a large blister. Mustard sinapisms were placed on his feet, and he was bled. The young doctor prognosticating a favourable issue, took his leave, promising to see his patient early in the morning. On his arrival, to his infinite surprise, he found his patient in full health, but bitterly complaining of blisters, bleedings, and sinapisms. The secret was now explained. The poor gentleman had sought for consolation in the wine-bottle, and had, unthinkingly, drank such a quantity as to throw him into this pseudo-apoplexy.

Dr. Gregory enjoyed a large share of private practice, and was most highly esteemed by all who had occasion to consult him. His good-nature was often taken advantage of. He has been heard to declare, that nearly one-third of the patients who consulted him never paid their fees. He was a man too independent in spirit to demand what he had a right to claim, and consequently he was much imposed upon.



That the profession are much exposed to the tricks of dishonest men, the following anecdotes will testify.

Of the noted Cooke, who died some years ago at Pentonville, many anecdotes have been related, of plans which he practised in order to cheat medical men into gratuitous advice. One of his modes was to attire himself in rags, and ape the pauper. Another was to procure a letter from some dispensary, and to attend there, which he did once for several weeks before he was found out to be a man of immense fortune.

On some occasions, however, he found himself obliged to seek advice *in propria personá*, but even then he went upon a saving plan: at one time, having a complaint in his leg, he applied to a surgeon in his neighbourhood, a Mr. Pigeon, asking him how long it would take to make a cure. The surgeon answered, "a month." This alarmed the miser, who anxiously enquired what would be the medical demand; and on being told by the surgeon, who saw the complaint was trifling, that it would be a guinea, Cooke replied, "a guinea! very well; but mark this—a guinea is an immense sum of money; and when I agree upon sums of such magnitude, I go upon the system of no cure no pay: so if I am not cured by the expiration of the month, I am to pay nothing!"

Mr. Pigeon accepted the terms; and by his diligence and surgical skill, would have closed the wound completely some days within the limited space; which the miser observing, and trembling for his gold, was determined to prevent, if possible; and actually pro-

cured an irritating plaister, which he put on, so as to extend the period of cicatrizing, which was then going on wholesomely; and was thus enabled, on the last day of the specified term, to show to the surgeon that the wound was still unhealed. The unhappy wretch, proud of his own infamy, had the hardihood to boast of it afterwards, under the cant phrase of "plucking a pigeon."

Even on his death-bed the ruling passion was still strong upon him; for having sent for several medical men, one only would attend; and he having for a few days sent in some medicine, the dying miser at length entreated him to say how long he thought he might live. The candid apothecary honestly said, "perhaps five or six days;" when Cooke, collecting all his strength for the moment, and starting up in his bed, exclaimed, "There! are you not a dishonest man, a rogue, and a robber, to serve me so?" The apothecary, in some surprise, naturally enquired how he deserved those epithets. "How, Sir!" faintly uttered the dying miser, "why, you are no better than a pickpocket, to rob me of my gold, by sending in two draughts a day, to a man that all your physic will not keep alive for six days! begone from my house, and never enter it again."

The celebrated Dupuytren was more successful in obtaining his fees than Dr. Gregory. He was often cheated by his patients, until he had recourse to the following ingenious device:—

He had a faithful servant, who was stationed at the

door of the hall. Dupuytren had two bells fixed over the porter's head, communicating with his consulting-room. On bowing the patient out, Dupuytren rung one of the two bells. If the fee was paid, one particular bell was rung, and the servant understood that all was right, and the patient was allowed to depart without any interruption. If the patient forgot the baron's fee, the "no pay" bell was tingled, and the servant understanding the signal, addressed the patient very politely in the following manner:—"Mille pardons, Monsieur, I think you have forgotten to give the baron his fee." "*Mon Dieu!*" exclaims the patient, "*quelle negligence! le voici avec mille apologies au baron.*" Notwithstanding Dupuytren's immense wealth, he lived in quite a different way from what persons of his rank do in this country. He occupied only one suite of apartments—a floor as we call it—and it was owing to this circumstance that he had it not in his power to prevent a ball from taking place in the room immediately over his head a night or two before he died; and which, it is said, greatly disturbed his dying moments.

Dr. Gregory died April 2, 1821.

DR. JOHN COAKLY LETTSOM must be allowed to tell the particulars of his own early career. In a letter to his friend Dr. Cuming, dated January 13, 1785, he says, "I went to Settle, an apprentice, a fatherless lad. I rode from the house of Samuel Fo-



thergill, at Warrington, alone ; and my guardian, when he parted with me, impressed upon my mind his last words : ‘ Please thy master, and, above all, *please thyself*. If thou turnest out well, I will recommend thee to my brother, the doctor ; and never forget that to be good is to be happy.’

“ Poor Sutcliff ! once, and only once, wast thou angry with me, and I shall never forget thy words : ‘ Thou mayest make a physician, but I think not a good apothecary.’ My master had never fewer than two apprentices. The one prior to me was very facetious. For some weeks before my arrival, he informed the market people that an apprentice was coming from a country where the feet of the inhabitants were opposite to those of England. The country people imagined, from such discourses, that this antipode walked on his head. The morning after I arrived was the market-day. Our house faced the market, and an immense concourse surrounded the window, through which I was surveying my new neighbourhood, little suspecting that I was the object of investigation. In their features were depicted surprise, curiosity, disappointment, and other passions. At length I heard a wise old *codger*, who seemed to have more discernment than his neighbours, exclaim amongst the crowd, ‘ Marry ! I think he looks like other folk !’ and away he went to the market, and the company followed, as soon as they had made the same discovery, by finding that my heels were under my head !”

It appears that Abraham Sutcliff was a surgeon apothecary, established in practice at Settle, in York-

shire. He was distantly related to S. Fothergill, at that time Lettsom's guardian. Sutcliff was an excellent classical scholar, although self-taught. Mr. Pettigrew thus describes his origin :—" About Halifax weaving was extensively encouraged. Sutcliff having no patrimony, received only twelve months' instruction to spell and read a little English, when he was appointed to the loom; but the exertion of throwing the shuttle was too hard for his constitution to bear. He was asthmatic early in life; and he suffered so much in the chest from the mechanical exertion of weaving, as to be obliged to relinquish the employment. He had a distant relation at Kendal, of the name of Ecroyd, an eminent surgeon, to whom he applied for any species of servitude. This journey, a distance of sixty miles, he performed on foot. At first he was engaged in carrying out medicines and cleaning the shop. In this town a considerable school was conducted by Thomas Rebanks. Young Sutcliff became acquainted with some of the school-boys, from whom he borrowed books, and occasionally procured instruction. He left the loom when he was about sixteen years of age, and at eighteen he had acquired a knowledge of so much Latin as to enable him to read a prescription, which he also learned to compound, and at length was permitted to visit patients for his master. Having by strict economy saved a little money, he was allowed by him to visit Edinburgh to attend some of the classes. Here he regularly studied under Professors Monro, Sinclair, Rutherford, &c. In summer he walked back again to his own station,

and resumed his services to his indulgent master. For two or three subsequent winters he repeated his perambulations, and became not only a scholar, but a proficient in medical science ; and with a view of exercising his abilities independently, he visited the town of Settle, and commenced his professional duties, in a single chamber, practising surgery, midwifery, and pharmacy. He acquired so much celebrity, as to include in his attendance an extent of at least ten miles on every quarter from his residence, at the period when Dr. Lettsom was apprenticed to him.”\*

“I was born a Quaker,” says Lettsom, “and what is still more strange, I was born so within the Tropics. I was brought up in notions which encouraged ideas of a favourite people, of a little remnant, of a chosen few, and such like narrow principles. As I loved reading, I acquired the power of thinking ; and, considering that all our society together, compared to the universal creation, was in less proportion than a grain of sand to the great globe, I entertained more ample notions of the universal Parent.

“When I came to London (after the termination of five years apprenticeship to Sutcliff) clothed in a

\* After Lettsom had established himself in town, Sutcliff retired from practice in favour of his son ; and, on visiting London, he called on his former apprentice, Dr. Lettsom, who advised him to commence practice as a physician. He replied that it was his intention to do so, but he feared it would be difficult to procure a diploma. Upon this Dr. Lettsom presented him with one. “My lad,” said Sutcliff, with his eyes suffused with tears of joy, “this is more than I know how to acknowledge.”



long-flapped coat, and carrying on my head a little bob-wig, unknown, and knowing no one, I was revolving, as I walked slowly along Lombard Street, 'what an atom of insignificance am I in this new world!' At this moment a person abruptly interrupted my reveries, by asking, 'Art thou not from Tortola?' 'Yes.' 'I am glad to see thee: wilt thou dine with me?' 'With all my heart, for I am here like Adam, without one associate.' I do not know by what fatality Lord Beezley thus accosted me and took me to his lodging, for we were total strangers. He was some inches taller than me; his coat had large flaps, which added to his height; his arms and legs made up in length what they lacked in circumference.

"I remember once, as he walked up Cheapside, a little impudent boy kept strutting before him, crying out, '*Ladies and gentlemen, make way, make way, make way, the monument is coming.*'

"Beezley never minded this, but kept his pace, throwing his arms about him, and forming a periphery of three yards equilaterally from the centre of motion."

James Beezley, who thus kindly took Dr. Lettsom under his care, was the author of the *Defence of the Character of George Fox against Formey*.

Lettsom commenced his medical studies in London at St. Thomas's Hospital, under surgeons Cowell, Baker, and Smith, and physicians Akenside, Russell, and Grieve.

It is not our intention to give the minute details of Dr. Lettsom's life. The reader must be satisfied with

an outline, containing such anecdotes as we consider illustrative of his character and that of his contemporaries.

It appears that, after spending twelve months in London, Dr. Lettsom returned to the West Indies, to take possession of some little property which had been left him by his father. It consisted of a small portion of land, and fifty slaves: and although, at this period, Lettsom was only possessed of fifty pounds in the world, he, with a feeling of humanity which does him immortal honour, soon after his arrival at Tortola, emancipated the whole of the slaves; thus reducing himself, by an act of justice, to great poverty at the age of twenty-three.

At Tortola, his native place, Lettsom commenced practice; and, in five months, he succeeded in amassing nearly £2,000; half of which he gave to his mother, and with the other half he returned to England, with the view of following in the footsteps of the celebrated Dr. Fothergill. After attending the Edinburgh school for some time, he, at last, graduated as an M.D. at Leyden, on the 20th of June, 1769; and, after marrying a lady of considerable wealth, he commenced practice in London, where he rose to great eminence as a physician and an author. Dr. Lettsom introduced into this country the *Mangel Wurzel*, or *Beta Hybrida*, as he termed it: he also suggested the establishment of the Infirmary at Margate; and many other institutions of a similar character. After the discovery of vaccination by Jenner, Dr. Lettsom was the first person who sent

the vaccine lymph across the Atlantic, and consigned it to the fostering care of his friend Dr. Waterhouse, professor of medicine in the university of Cambridge, Massachusetts; from which it spread through the United States. He founded the London Medical Society; assisted in establishing the Royal Jennerian Society; and in promoting the interest and welfare of every charitable institution in the country. He wrote a large number of works and pamphlets, on a variety of subjects, and entered into correspondence with most of the distinguished literary men of the day.

He died, after a short illness, on the 1st of November, 1815.

For a considerable time he maintained the first practice as a physician in the city of London. His professional emoluments were great. In 1783, he received £3,600; in 1784, £3,900; in 1785, £4,015; and, in 1786, £4,500.

Mr. Pettigrew observes, had he at this time taken all the fees that were presented to him, his receipts would have been doubled. In 1800 he received, in fees, £12,000. This was considerably more than Dr. J. Fothergill ever derived from his practice; his highest sum was £5,000. in one year.

The following anecdotes have been related, as illustrative of Lettsom's generosity:—

In 1782, he was sent for to visit an old gentleman, 74 years of age, who resided in the county of Essex. This gentleman had been a great American merchant; he had kept a princely house, and his heart was literally made up of generosity. The American war



ruined him; but his creditors, valuing his upright character, permitted him to reside at his house in the country, with a genteel allowance, until his affairs could be settled. The protracted American war destroyed the prospect of retrieving his affairs; his allowance was, therefore, taken away. He fell sick, and consulted Dr. Lettsom. When the Doctor visited him, the gentleman said to him, pointing to his garden, "Those trees I planted, and have lived to see some of them too old to bear fruit. They are part of my family; and my children, still dearer to me must quit this residence, which was the delight of my youth, and the hope of my old age."

The benevolent Doctor, upon quitting the apartment, left, enclosed in a letter, a cheque to relieve his immediate necessities. He also purchased the house, which was freehold, for £500, and gave it him for life. The poor merchant's health was restored, his garden continued to be the object of his attention, and he daily blessed his worthy benefactor.

Lettsom was by birth and education a quaker; but by no means a bigot to the peculiar notions entertained by the Society of Friends. He was ready to join with all, without any distinction of sect, in worshipping the great God, feeling the truth of the following sentiment:—

———" True Religion

Is always mild, propitious, and humble;  
Plays not the tyrant, plants no faith in blood,  
Nor bears destruction on her chariot wheels;

But stoops to polish, succour, and redress,  
And builds her grandeur on the public good."

MILLER.

In 1806, Dr. Lettsom determined to enter into serious combat with the quacks, who were then infesting the metropolis; and he prevailed on Phillips, the proprietor of the "Medical Journal," to allow him to insert, in every number of that work, an anonymous article on each of the advertising quacks of the country. Lettsom began with Brodum, the proprietor of the Nervous Cordial, and other furiously advertized preparations; and, without ceremony, charged him with killing thousands by their indiscriminate use; and, to undermine Brodum, stated that he had been a shoe-black at Copenhagen, a jew vender of oranges, and, finally, a footman to a mountebank. All this might be partly true, but it could not be legally proved in a court of law. Brodum, to whom the costs of a suit were of no importance, set his attorney to work, and Phillips, the printer, and three or four venders, were served with actions for £5,000 damages.

Phillips called on Lettsom, and the whole college, one by one, to enable him to justify, but in vain; for not one could prove that Brodum had even a single swallower of his nostrums. The lawyers held consultations, and the ingenious Garrow was anxious to get his brother-in-law, Lettsom, out of the scrape. In the mean time, Brodum's attorney pressed for proceedings. At length, the editor of a newspaper stept

between Phillips and Brodum; the latter agreed to withdraw his actions, and submit to the costs, provided the author was given up; but, if not, then he expected all expenses to be paid without demur; that the author should whitewash him in the next Journal, under the same signature; and, further, that Phillips, and the newspaper editor, should dine with him. Lettsom gladly paid the two attorney's bills, amounting to £390. Phillips had a splendid dinner, and the next Medical Journal contained a high eulogium on the talents and virtues of Dr. Brodum.

Thus ended Lettsom's campaign against the London quacks!

An adventure which this celebrated physician once met with, we find recorded in his own words:—"It was my lot, a few years ago, to be attacked on the highway by a genteel-looking person, well mounted, who demanded my money, at the same time placing a pistol to my breast. I requested him to remove the pistol, which he immediately did. I saw his agitation, from whence I could perceive he had not been habituated to this hazardous practice; and I added that I had both gold and silver about me, which I freely gave him, but that I was very sorry to see a young gentleman risk his life in so unbecoming a manner, which would probably soon terminate at the gallows: that at the best, the casual pittance gained on the highway would afford but a precarious subsistence; but that if I could serve him by a private assistance, more becoming his appearance, he might farther command my purse; and, at the same time, I desired him to accept



a card containing my address, and to call upon me, as he might trust to my word for his liberty and life. He accepted my address, but I observed his voice faltered; it was late at night; there was, however sufficient star-light to enable me to perceive, as I leaned towards him on the window of the carriage, that his bosom was overwhelmed with conflicting passions: at length, bending forward on his horse, and recovering the power of speech, he affectingly said, “I thank you for your offer; American affairs have ruined me;—I will, dear Sir, wait upon you.”

The man kept his word, and Lettsom finding, on enquiry, the account he gave of himself to be correct, after making an unsuccessful application, in his behalf, to the Commissioners for relieving the American sufferers, presented a memorial on the subject to the Queen, who, it is said, procured the man a commission in the army; and his name subsequently appeared, on two occasions, in the Gazette, for promotion, on account of good conduct.

The following well-known squib on the doctor was written by some wag:—

“When any sick to me apply,  
I physicks bleeds and sweats’ em;  
If after that they choose to die,  
What’s that to me,

I. LETTSOM.

The following answer to this ridiculous *jeu d’esprit*, was written by his friend Sir M. Martin:—

“ Such swarms of patients do to me apply,  
 Did I not practice, some would surely die ;  
 ’Tis true, I purge some, bleed some, sweat some,  
 Admit I expedite a few, still many call

## I. LETTSOM.

Dr. Lettsom was remarkable for his punctillious attention to cleanliness. He has often been heard to declare that he would sooner relinquish his fee altogether, than have any thing to do with a person who neglected this duty, as he called it. He once offended one of his best patients, who brought her child for him to see, by telling her that the little patient’s disease was brought on by allowing particles of dirt to prevent the cutaneous secretion from going on. The lady felt very indignant, and left the doctor’s house in a great rage.\*

Though medical knowledge is undoubtedly increased by experience, for, as Shandy says, “ an ounce of a man’s own knowledge, is worth a ton of other people’s,” yet that physician is not always the

\* This reminds us of an anecdote of an American physician whom a lady consulted about her child’s precious health. Among other things, she enquired if he did not think the *springs* would be useful. “ Certainly, Madam,” replied the doctor, as he looked at the child, “ I have not the least hesitation in recommending the springs—and the sooner you apply the remedy the better.” “ You really think it would be good for the dear little thing, don’t you ?” “ Upon my word it is the best remedy I know of.” “ What springs would you recommend, doctor ?” “ Any will do, Madam ; where you can get plenty of soap and water.”

most experienced, who *sees the greatest number of patients*. The understanding does not gallop as fast as the feet do. A physician who is constantly on the trot may see too much, and think too little. Hugh Smith, who was a very popular man in his day, used to arrange his patients very much after the manner of Dr. Last; when he meant to have a holiday, he would say, "I physic all my patients to-day, because I am going into the country to-morrow.\* Lettsom, at one period of his practice, was in the habit of seeing more patients than any one physician practising in London; and on shewing Dr. William Saunders his long list, one day at a consultation, the latter facetiously said, "My dear doctor, how do you manage? do you write for them by the dozen? or have you some patent plan for practising by *steam*, my much esteemed friend?"

In the cold weather, when the poor were out of work, Dr. Lettsom constantly employed them about his grounds. It happened that a gentleman, whose premises adjoined, met the doctor one winter's morning,

\* The late Dr. Sutherland, of Bath, when at Paris, attended *L' Hospital de la Charité*. One day he accompanied the Physician running through one of the wards to visit the patients, a friar trotting after him with his book in hand, to minute down the prescriptions: the French doctor stops at a bed, and calls out to the patient in it, with the utmost precipitation, *Toussez vous?* then *suez vous?* *allez vous a la Selle?* then turning round instantly to the friar, "*Purgezle.*" "*Monsieur, il est mort!*" replied the friar. "*Diable! allons!*" said the doctor, and galloped on to the next patient with rapidity.



and upbraided him for keeping so many men in a state of apparent idleness. "True, neighbour," said the doctor, with a smile of complacency, "but who pays them; thou, or I?" The gentleman felt the reproof; and turning on his heel, bade the doctor good morning.

The doctor was in the practice of carrying the produce of his fees carelessly in his coat pocket. His footman, being aware of this, used to make free with a guinea occasionally, while the coat hung up in the passage. The doctor having repeatedly missed his gold, was suspicious of his footman, and took an opportunity of watching him. He succeeded in the detection, and, without even noticing it to the other servants, called him to his study, and coolly said to him, "John, art thou in want of money?" "No;" replied John. "Oh! then, why didst thou make so free with my pockets? and since thou didst not want money, and hast told me a lie, I must part with thee. Now, say what situation thou wouldst like abroad, and I will obtain it for thee; for I cannot keep thee; I cannot recommend thee; therefore, thou must go." Suffice it to say, the doctor procured John a situation, and he went abroad.

"I remember at Spa," says Lettsom, "to have been accosted by a beggar, in very classical latin. I had just been under an Albinus, a Gaubius, and a Van Ruyen, when this language was more familiar to me than it is at present; and I confess I seldom met it purer than in the mouth of the beggar."

In a previous chapter we have given a sketch of the celebrated DR. MESSENGER MOUNSEY, the eccentric

physician of Chelsea Hospital. Since the publication of that portion of the work, we have discovered the following anecdotes of him, which are too good to be omitted:—

At one period, when the doctor was coming from his brother's in Norfolk to London, in the Norwich coach, during the Christmas holidays, the inside of the coach was crowded with game, as presents from the country gentlemen to their friends in town. As there was only room for one passenger, the doctor would gladly have deferred his departure, although his business in town was of an urgent nature; but they refused at the coach-office to return him the money he had paid to secure his seat, so he determined to put up with the inconvenience, and seated himself inside the coach. When day-light had dawned, he perceived that the game was directed to different people; and being disposed to have a little fun at the expense of others, he commenced altering the directions. The pheasants, which were directed to a nobleman, were sent to some tradesman, and *vice versa*, so that the greatest confusion was created at the coach-office, much to the delight of the mischievous doctor.

Mounsey was one day riding with his servant, when he stopped at a village. Seeing the innkeeper at the door, who bowed to him very graciously, he said, he wanted some tea, and added, "I suppose, since the commutation act, you can give me plenty of home-made bread, with good Norfolk fresh butter and cream, for sixpence?" "You had better have added half-a-dozen new-laid eggs into the bargain," said the

publican: "but alight, Sir, and walk in." The doctor did so, and the host led him into a large room, where there were no windows. "Now, Sir, if you are willing to pay for candles, I will agree to supply you for the proposed sum." The doctor enjoyed the reply as well as the joke, and stopped the whole night as well as the next day with him.—A day or two afterwards, riding over some downs, he observed a shepherd tending his flock, with a new coat on. "Harkee, friend," said the doctor, "who gave you that new coat?" The shepherd, thinking he was a parson, replied, "the same that clothed you—the parish!" The doctor, highly pleased with the answer, rode on a little way, and then desired his servant to go back, and ask the shepherd if he wanted a place, as he wanted a fool. The servant delivered the message. "Tell your master, said the shepherd, "that his living will not support three of us."

Mounsey being the intimate friend of Lord Godolphin, he was in the habit of telling many anecdotes as related by that nobleman, and among others the following one, relative to the grandmother, Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough. In a conversation which Lady Sutherland had with her mother the Duchess, the former observed, "In all the torrent of abuse poured out on your grace, your worst enemies have never called you a faithless wife." "It was no great merit," said the Duchess, as she was turning over the papers afterwards sent to Mallet for her husband's history, "it was no great merit, for I had the handsomest, the most accomplished, and bravest man in



Europe for my husband!" "Yet, Madam, you don't say he was without faults?" replied Lady Sunderland. "By no means. I knew them better than he did himself, or even than I do my own. He came back one day from my poor misled mistress Queen Anne, (I believe when he resigned his commission,) and said he had told her that he thanked God, with all his faults, neither *avarice* nor *ambition* could be laid to his charge. When he told me this," continued she, though not in a laughing humour, "I bit my tongue almost through to prevent my smiling in his face."

Dining with Garrick, in company with Dr. Warburton and Dr. Browne (author of *Barbarossa*), Mounsey was rather grave. "Why so much out of spirits, doctor?" said Garrick. "Oh he is afraid of Dr. Warburton," said Browne. "Afraid of him!" said Mounsey, looking indignantly at both, "No, I may be dull to-day, for how can it be otherwise from the effects of *this conversation*? but I assure you I am not afraid of Dr. Warburton, nor of his man *Jack* either."

Though Mounsey lived in intimacy with Garrick at the theatre, and at a variety of private tables, Garrick was not very fond of asking him to his house; and the reason he gave for it was, to use his own words, "that the doctor was so great a blackguard, he could not be sure of him for a moment." On his promising, however, to behave himself better for the future, Garrick ventured to ask him to meet a large party of right honourables and fashionables at his house in Southampton Street, where Mounsey figured for some time with his usual wit and pleasantry, very much to the

pleasure and entertainment of the company. At the second course, the doctor wished for a piece of roasted chicken, which was at the upper end of the table, and calling for it to no purpose several times to Mrs. Garrick, who happened to be engaged in talking to some noble lord at her elbow, he at last, raising his voice, exclaimed aloud, "You little confounded toad, will you, or will you not, send me the wing, leg, bit of the breast, or merry-thought, of some of those chickens?" The company laughed, but Garrick's pride was hurt to the quick, in feeling himself so cavalierly treated before so many noble personages. Dr. Thompson was present on this occasion, and Garrick protested he would transfer his interest and patronage to this physician, in consequence of Mounsey's insolence.\*

Mounsey was the intimate friend of the eccentric Dr. Barker, who at that time practised as an apothecary in Cheapside. It is said that during the great plague of London, four thieves, availing themselves of the public calamity, took that opportunity to plunder the houses of the dead and dying, yet, notwithstanding,

\* Dr. Thompson, who was a celebrated physician in his day, was remarkable for two things—viz., the *slovenliness* of his person, and his dislike to *muffins*, which he always reprobated as being very unwholesome. On his breakfasting one morning at Lord Melcomb's, when Garrick was present, a plate of muffins being introduced, the doctor grew outrageous, and vehemently exclaimed, "Take away the muffins!" "No, no," said Garrick, seizing the plate, and looking significantly at the doctor, "take away the *ragamuffins*."

escaped the infection themselves. On its being inquired how they thus insured their safety, it was found that they constantly carried about with them sponges dipped in prepared vinegar, which circumstance led the public to suppose that this was a preservative from infection, and all apothecaries sold it under the denomination of "*the four thieves' vinegar.*"

During the prevalence of the influenza, Barker exhibited at his shop window, "The Four Thieves' Vinegar sold here." This being observed by a physician of Foote's acquaintance, who was in the habit of frequenting the shop, he asked the apothecary "how long it was since he took in three partners?" Barker assured him that he stood alone in the firm of the house. The doctor took him to the window, and showing him the card, recommended him "to deceive the public no longer." Mounsey was in the habit of telling this story with considerable glee.

SIR RICHARD CROFT was a distinguished accoucheur. He married a daughter of Dr. Denman. He went to Paris to attend the Duchess of Devonshire in her confinement, which circumstance partly increased his business on his return to the metropolis. He rose to great eminence in the department of practice to which he directed his mind. He was called in to attend the Princess Charlotte; and after the fatal termination of the Princess's delivery, the obloquy which it gave rise to, and the disappointment it occasioned, preyed upon his mind to such a degree, that about three months subsequent to her death he, in a fit of temporary insanity, shot himself in his bed-room.



It was proved, at the inquest held on his body, that since the death of the Princess Charlotte, he had never been free from melancholy and abstraction; and on Dr. Thackeray's asking after one of his patients, he replied, "That he would give five hundred guineas if it were over, rather than have to attend her." On the night of his suicide, he exclaimed to his servant, who complained of being unwell, "What is your agitation compared to mine?" And a few days before, he struck his forehead with much violence, in the presence of Mr. Hollings, and abruptly said to him, "Good God! what will become of me?" His conduct, with reference to the Princess, was much censured at the time; but Dr. Baillie stated that every thing was done by Sir Richard Croft that skill and humanity could suggest. The fatal issue of the case filled his mind with despair, and alarmed his friends for the safety of his intellect. He was heard frequently to ejaculate to himself, "I shall go mad—I shall end my life in a mad-house—I am ruined—Who will place any confidence in me?" As he was driving in his carriage to the Princess when she was taken ill, he observed to a member of his family, "This case will either make me, or ruin me." Poor Sir Richard! he appears to have had a presentiment that *something* was about to happen which would seriously affect his prospects in life. It is said that a few days before he attended his illustrious patient, he fancied he saw the Princess clad in white, glide through his bed-room. Sir Richard was a man of fine and honourable feelings, and was beloved by all who knew him.

DR. THOMAS BATEMAN, author of the celebrated work on "Cutaneous Diseases," edited by Drs. Willan and A. T. Thompson, was born in 1778. He attended the lectures of Dr. Baillie, who spoke highly of Bateman's talents and industry. His character, both private and professional, is said to have been marked by strict morality and unimpeachable integrity. He has, however, been charged with dissipation, and a leaning towards the doctrines of materialism. At the commencement of his illness, in 1815, he exclaimed, in a paroxysm of pain, to a friend who attended him, "All these sufferings are a just punishment for my long scepticism and neglect of God and religion!" In this conversation he was absurd enough to attribute his sceptical notions to the natural tendency of some of his professional studies. Some time after he said, in allusion to the first of Scott's Essays on the subject of religion, "This is demonstration! complete demonstration!"

Although endowed with extreme sensibility, and the warmest affections, his deportment to strangers was cold and forbidding. On one occasion, he peremptorily refused to prolong a pleasant visit, because, he said to a companion, he had promised he would be home at twelve o'clock, and could not break his word even to a chamber-maid.

Dr. Bateman was a most indefatigable student. He was hardly ever without a pen or book in his hand. His work on the Diseases of the Skin, brought him considerable practice. He has been observed to say, that if a medical man wished soon to establish himself

in practice, he ought to write a treatise on a practical point connected with medicine. "I have done so," he would say, "and it has succeeded." But Dr. Bateman was well known as a clever experienced physician, prior to the publication of the work in question. This eminent man died in 1820, much regretted by his contemporaries, relations, and friends.

Of the early life of the late DR. MACKINTOSH we have some very interesting facts on record. When about ten days old, a curious incident occurred to him. His late Majesty, when Duke of Clarence, happened to dine at the barrack at Halifax, to which the father of the late professor was attached. The child was introduced to him in a very novel way. Being put into a large dish, and concealed by the silver cover, he was placed, during the repast, before the gracious prince, whose astonishment may be better conceived than described, when he discovered the nature of the "dainty dish" that had been served up to him. His Royal Highness enjoyed the joke amazingly, laughed heartily, and took the child in his arms, and, kissing it, desired that it should be called after him. The young doctor had unfortunately, however, been previously christened.

Owing to the military profession of his father, the education of the doctor was a wandering one. In his lectures he has been heard to say that he had been at twenty-five different elementary schools. His education was completed at St. Andrews.

From his earliest years Mackintosh displayed an openness of character, and an originality and inde-



pendence of mind which have conspicuously marked his subsequent career.

At an early age he was bound an apprentice to one of the first surgeons of Edinburgh. It has been said with reference to this circumstance, that it was his misfortune to be placed under the guidance of a man of a haughty turn of mind, who, instead of encouraging his pupils, and rendering interesting the abstruse principles of science, treated them with every mark of disrespect and unkindness; thus exhibiting a character of mind which is beneath contempt. He was therefore in his studies left to follow the bent of his own mind. Anatomy and chemistry interested him, and he pursued these sciences with great zeal. The enthusiasm which he displayed, in acquiring a knowledge of anatomy, attracted the notice and admiration of the celebrated Monro (*secundus*) and of Dr. Barclay, who always took a lively interest in his welfare. He early displayed a turn for original investigation, and, accordingly, almost even before he knew the nature of disease, he took every opportunity to observe its phenomenon at the bed-side of the patient. He was, at this period of life, seldom known to read a medical and surgical work, because he candidly confessed he did not understand the author's meaning—for this admission we give him credit.

The education of the doctor was essentially a practical one, and early accustomed him to observe and judge for himself, and to depend upon his own resources. It thus accorded with the bent of his genius; and although by judicious direction his edu-

cation might have been improved, still the world has had no cause to lament the practical discipline he then underwent. With such early indications of a talent for original investigation, and a love of truth more than of theory, we are at no loss to understand why he afterwards turned out so eminent a pathologist, and so sound a practitioner.

After finishing his education, Dr. Mackintosh was appointed assistant surgeon of artillery. At the period he entered the army, the Egyptian ophthalmia raged to a great extent. He soon observed that the want of success, in the treatment of this disease, arose from the employment of injudicious means. He then suggested that the disease should be treated on the same plan that is adopted in other cases of inflammation; viz., by copious bleeding to fainting, and by abstaining from the use of stimulants during the acute stage. By following the mode of practice laid down by Dr. M., this formidable disease was much more successfully managed than before; and Dr. Mackintosh was much praised for the improvement introduced into this department of surgery.

Being desirous of investigating the nature of yellow fever, intermittent fever, and other diseases of warm climates, he volunteered his services to accompany an expedition then ready to sail for Barbadoes, where it was to be employed on a very arduous and dangerous enterprise. Dr. M. was appointed surgeon to a battalion; and the General commanding the expedition expressed his satisfaction at having with them a medical officer of such enterprising talents, and whose

gentlemanly manner, and pleasing address, had rendered him so great a favourite in the regiment to which he had previously belonged. In this expedition, which was one of the most hazardous and successful during the late ever-memorable war, Dr. M. partook of all its difficulties and dangers; and on more than one occasion narrowly escaped death from the cannon of the enemy. In endeavouring to reach the island, the boat which contained him upset, and went to the bottom. Not being able to swim, he must have been drowned but for the assistance of a sailor. On another occasion a shell exploded in the tent where he was lying ill of a fever, but he was preserved uninjured.

During this eventful struggle his talents shone conspicuously, and his bold and affable spirit were found to encourage the soldier in the field of battle.

Owing to the great labour, physical and mental, which the doctor underwent, he was attacked with fever, and subsequently he was seized with ague. While labouring under this attack, he had an opportunity of patiently studying the nature of this disease; and on himself he first tried the effect of bleeding in the cold stage, which practice he pursued after he had established himself in Edinburgh, and the adoption of which was strongly recommended in his work on the *Practice of Physic*.

Subsequently to this period he served in South America, and different parts of the globe, with the same high character which has ever distinguished his career. Dr. M. was obliged to return to Europe in consequence of ill health. After residing at Edin-



burgh for some time, he was sent to the continent of Europe, and was engaged in all those brilliant struggles which so gloriously terminated in the overthrow of Napoleon Buonaparte. He remained with the army of occupation in France till the year 1818, when the troops returned home, and he was allowed to retire on half-pay. He now settled with his family in Edinburgh; more, however, with the view of educating his children than of getting into practice. It was not long before his eminent professional skill began to be appreciated, and patients flocked to his house to have the advantage of his advice. In the year 1822, an epidemic puerperal fever raged in Edinburgh. Dr. Mackintosh made himself conspicuous on this occasion by his unwearied and unremitting exertions in behalf of the sick, and his fame soon spread from one part of the city to the other. He published the result of his experience and practice in this disease, which is considered to exhibit great knowledge of his profession, united with reasoning power of a high order.

Dr. Hamilton replied to Mackintosh's pamphlet on puerperal fever; and to this he made a rejoinder, which is considered a very masterly production.

In consequence of the death of Dr. James Gregory, Dr. Mackintosh, who had already been lecturing on the principles and practice of physic, was petitioned, by upwards of three hundred students of the Royal Infirmary, to offer himself for the vacant chair in the university. The election took place on Monday, the 4th, when, to the astonishment and disappointment

of the students, Dr. Bothwick was elected. In the application which the doctor made to the managers of the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, he enters into a brief description of his professional career. In alluding to his works, he says, "The first medical work which I published was on Puerperal Fever, in 1822, which was so well received by the profession that it is now out of print. In 1829, I published a work on the Principles of Pathology and Practice of Physic, in two volumes, which has since gone through two editions; and since the first of November last, five hundred copies of the third edition have been sold."

Again, in alluding to his professional services, he says, "When this city was threatened with cholera, I reluctantly accepted the situation of physician to the Drummond-Street Hospital, which was pressed upon me. Having accepted the office, I endeavoured to perform the duties to the best of my abilities. During the first seven months I passed upwards of thirty entire nights in the hospital; and, in addition to visiting it seven or eight times during the day, I generally made a night visit, between the hours of one and three o'clock, A.M. In thus conscientiously discharging the duties which I had undertaken, I, on two different occasions, ran the risk of my life, and the receipts of my practice were materially diminished from the dread which many had of infection, and from my not being in the way when sent for."

Dr. Mackintosh's death was deeply deplored by a large and respectable circle of friends, to whom he was much endeared.

CHESELDEN, the eminent surgeon and anatomist, came before the public at an earlier period of life than almost any other in the long list of professional excellence. He was a fellow of the Royal Society at twenty-one years of age, and at twenty-two gave lectures on surgery! He was truly master of his art, which he simplified, improved, and ornamented. Living at a period, considered as an intellectual era in this country, he was the companion and friend of the "great master spirits of the age," the men of genius and taste.

He acquired great fame by giving sight to a boy who was born blind; but what distinguished him most, was his skill in performing the operation of lithotomy. Persons came from all parts of the world for his professional assistance; and the arrival of a distinguished foreigner is thus announced, in May, 1734:—"Baron Carlson, Secretary of State to the King of Sweden, lately arrived here for that purpose, was cut for the stone, at the house of Baron Sparr, by W. Cheselden, who took from him, in *two minutes and four seconds*, two stones, each as big as a large walnut, and three of a smaller size."

Cheselden has been said to have been vain of his acquirements. Be that as it may, he was a charitable and a good man; he belonged to many public charities; and when the Foundling Hospital was first proposed, he sent a benefaction with two lines from Pope:

"'Tis what the happy to the unhappy owe;  
For what man gives, the gods by him bestow."



In the beginning of 1736, Cheselden was thus honourably mentioned by Pope: "As soon as I had sent my last letter, I received a most kind one from you, expressing great pain for my late illness at Mr. Cheselden's. I conclude you were eased of that friendly apprehension in a few days after you had despatched yours, for mine must have reached you then. I wondered a little at your question, who Cheselden was. It shows that the truest merit does not travel so far any way as on the wings of poetry: he is the most noted, and most deserving man in the whole profession of chirurgery; and has saved the lives of thousands by his manner of cutting for the stone."

He appears to have been on terms of intimate friendship with Pope, who frequently, in his letters to Mr. Richardson, talks of dining with Cheselden, who then lived in or near Queen-square.\*

Another proof of his intimacy arises from a poem of the younger Richardson, sent to Pope at Twickenham, after being declared out of danger by his physicians, in which we are told that,

———"Cheselden, with candid wile,  
 Detains his guest; the ready Lares smile.  
 Good Chiron too, within his welcome bower,  
 Received of verse the mild and sacred power;  
 With anxious skill supplied the blest relief,  
 And healed, with balms, and sweet discourse, his grief."

Cheselden's manners were extremely kind and gentle; and notwithstanding the extensive practice he

\* "I'll do what Mead or Cheselden advise."

had been engaged in, he always, before an operation, felt sick at the thoughts of the pain he was about to inflict; though during its performance, his coolness and presence of mind never forsook him. In alluding to this feeling, Moraud relates an anecdote of a French surgeon, who, on visiting the hospital, expressed great surprise at witnessing such an evidence of weakness, as he considered it, on the part of so famous a surgeon. After the operation was over, the visiter was invited by Cheselden to accompany him to the fencing school, whither he was going to see a sparring match; but here the tables were completely turned, for no sooner did the contest begin, than the stranger turned pale at the sight, and was obliged speedily to betake himself to the open air.

A relation of this eminent physician was condemned to be hanged. Cheselden proposed, if the king would pardon him, to take out the drum of the prisoner's ear, in order to try what effect it would have; and if it succeeded, the experiment was to be repeated on Lady Suffolk. The man was pardoned, but the operation was never performed!

Cheselden had considerable taste in matters of art: the plan of Fulham Bridge was drawn by him. In the frontispiece to Cheselden's great work on the Bones, is the figure of Belchier in his morning gown, and Sharp, is the young man behind him. Cheselden is not represented himself. It is stated that this distinguished surgeon lost £1700 by this work, as so many of the expensive plates were cancelled, and alterations made while he was about it. Douglas, who

wrote a peevish intrigue upon it, called Belchier up one morning at six o'clock, when the work was published, and asked him if Cheselden was mad, by saying that he had not room enough to write more on the bones. "What!" said he, "could he not get more paper."

Of the illustrious surgeon, Pott, a short notice must be given. MR. PERCIVAL POTT was originally intended for the church, in which he had considerable prospect of preferment; but he resisted the importunities of his friends, having manifested, in early life, a strong propensity for the profession to which he was destined in after life to become so bright an ornament. In 1736, Pott commenced practice in Fenchurch-street. In 1749, he was appointed one of the principal surgeons of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. At this period the state of the science of surgery was still very imperfect, notwithstanding some sensible and ingenious men had published observations which had enlightened and improved it. Still the maxim, "*Dolor medecina doloris*," remained unrefuted; the severe treatment of the old school, in the operative part of surgery, continued in force; the first principles of the science, the natural process and powers of healing, were either not understood, or not attended to; painful escharotic dressings were continually employed; and the actual cautery was in such frequent use, that, at the times when surgeons visited the hospital, it was regularly heated and prepared in the wards of the hospital and in the presence of the patients, as a part of the necessary apparatus. Mr. Pott lived to see these remains of barbarism set



aside, and a more humane and rational plan, of which he was the originator, universally adopted.

An accident which Pott met with made him an author. As he was riding he was thrown from his horse, and suffered a compound fracture of his leg, the bone being forced through the integuments. Conscious of the danger attendant on fractures of this nature, and thoroughly aware how much they may be increased by rough treatment or improper position, he would not suffer himself to be moved until he had made the necessary depositions. He sent to Westminster for two chairmen to bring their poles; and patiently lay on the cold pavement, it being the middle of January, until they arrived. In this situation he purchased a door, to which he made them nail their poles. When all was ready, he caused himself to be laid on it, and was carried through Southwark, over London-bridge, to Watling-street, where he was then living—a tremendous distance in such a state! It was during his confinement in consequence of this accident, that he planned and partly executed his celebrated treatise on Ruptures.

In 1760, he published his work on the Injuries to which the Head is liable from external violence; a publication which placed his name in the highest rank as a writer, and as an able surgeon. He was much engaged in practice at this time; and in order to collect many facts bearing upon the subject of his treatise, he was in the practice of visiting, almost daily, every hospital in London; and entered into a correspondence with the most eminent continental

surgeons. "I must have facts," he would say: "what are mere opinions worth; any man may give an opinion, but it is not every mind that is qualified to collect and arrange important facts?"

Pott possessed a kind and humane disposition. He was ever ready to lend a helping hand to medical men in distress. At one period he had three surgeons who had been reduced in circumstances, living in his own house, until he could find means by which they could earn an independent livelihood. He was most kind and attentive to the patients in the hospital: in particular cases he was not satisfied with seeing them at the ordinary periods, but he visited the hospital several times during the day. On one occasion he had performed a complicated and dangerous operation. He had seen the patient three times during the day; and during the following night he dreamed that the assistant at the hospital had forgotten to administer a particular medicine that he had ordered, and from which he had anticipated much good effect. He could not remain easy whilst this impression was on his mind. He rose from his bed, dressed himself, and in the middle of the night, without disturbing any of the family, went to the hospital, gained admission, had the house-surgeon summoned to his side, in order to satisfy himself that his instructions had been punctually obeyed. To his great astonishment he found that the medicine had not been exhibited! Pott always declared that his dream had saved his patient's life.—Although a great surgeon and skilful operator, Pott was nervous prior to per-

forming any difficult operation. He never allowed a day to pass without dissecting some portion of the human body. He considered it the sacred duty of every surgeon who might be called upon to operate upon the living, to be always operating upon the dead. This was his practice, and he strongly recommended it to others.

The retirement of Sir Cæsar Hawkins from London practice was the means of considerably enlarging Pott's connexions. He then lived in Hanover-square.

Pott died on the 23rd of December, 1788. On the last day of his illness he observed, "My lamp is almost extinguished; I hope it has burned for the benefit of others."

The person of Mr. Pott was elegant, though less than the middle size; his countenance animated and expressive; his manners and deportment were graceful; and his remarkable vigour and activity seemed unabated by age. He was distinguished as a surgeon for his sound judgment, cool determination, and great manual dexterity.

MR. WILLIAM HEY was a most distinguished surgeon. He commenced his studies at the place of his birth, Leeds, and came to London in 1757, and placed himself under the tuition of the most able masters of his day. He studied under Broomfield, and Dr. Donald Monro of St. George's Hospital. During the period which Mr. Hey devoted to the study of his profession in London, he undertook, says Mr. Pearson, the very difficult task of governing his thoughts; and perhaps very few per-



sons ever exercised such a perfect control over them as he was enabled to do, from those early days of his youth to the end of his life. He determined that he would meditate upon a given subject, while he was walking a certain distance, and that then he would turn his attention to some other topic; and he was thus accustomed to pass through the streets of London investigating the various subjects to which his thoughts had been directed by the lectures, or other professional occupations. The effect of this habit remained with him through life; and he found it of admirable use, not only in preserving him from the intrusion of a swarm of impertinent ideas, but in enabling him to form a correct judgment on many points pertaining to divine and human knowledge.

After finishing his education in London he returned to Leeds, where he immediately established himself in practice. He soon rose to great eminence in his profession. At the establishment of the Leeds Infirmary, he was unanimously elected the principal surgeon of the institution, which office he filled for many years, with great credit and honour to himself, and advantage to the patients admitted under his care. He was also appointed Mayor of Leeds, in consequence of the celebrity which his talents had enabled him to acquire. Mr. Hey was as distinguished for his piety as for his professional skill. He was beloved and respected by all who had the high privilege of being acquainted with him. At the age of eighteen he joined the Methodists, who were under the direction and superintendence of the Rev. J. Wesley,

and he continued in connexion with them for twenty or thirty years. Mr. Hey left behind many records of his professional exertions. His "Surgical Observations," is still a standard medical work. He was a skilful operator—in fact, he possessed all the qualifications necessary to constitute a good surgeon. He invariably retired to a room to offer up a prayer to the Divine Being, previous to his performing any operation, and he attributed his success in the use of the knife to this circumstance.

In domestic life he was kind, tender, and affectionate—as a magistrate, just, legal, and conscientious. In him virtue and religion, found a father and a protector—vice, a stern but merciful judge and monitor. His surgical writings, which will be studied by the faculty as long as true knowledge of their profession is an object, evince a strong, comprehensive, and enlightened view of those subjects which he undertook to illustrate.

Mr. Hey died in March, 1819.

JAMES HEAVISIDE was born at Hatfield, where his father was a general practitioner, much esteemed by the neighbouring gentry, and particularly patronized by the Duke of Leeds and Lord Salisbury. "I had the pleasure," says the writer from whom we have borrowed the particulars of our sketch of this eminent surgeon, "of making Heaviside's acquaintance very early in life, and received many civilities from him, partly from that urbanity which was natural to him, and partly from some friendly recollections of a very near and dear relation, with whom he was fellow-pupil under

Mr. Pott." Heaviside commenced his professional career in Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square; where having more leisure time than was good for his health, his father thinking that horse-exercise would benefit it, purchased for him a surgeoncy in the Life-guards. Shortly after, he became a candidate for the office of assistant surgeon to St. Bartholomew's hospital; and though he did not succeed, it must be remembered, to his credit, that he did not canvass for it—a point of honour not so scrupulously attended to by his opponents. When his father died he came into a fortune, on which he might have retired; but his character displayed itself, and he evinced his love for the profession by forming his museum, which for many years attracted public curiosity, and at last excited professional attention and jealousy; as some were pleased to think, that

"With coffee, tea, and butter'd rolls,  
He found an easy way to people's souls;"

and which the envious insisted, pertained more to the nature of a discovery in philosophy than physiology. Amongst the qualifications that fit a man for the important duties of a professional life, may be ranked punctuality, attention, assiduity, and gentleness; all of which Mr. Heaviside possessed in an eminent degree, and they doubtlessly contributed largely to his success. He may be said to have lived in surgery for half a century. He never left London for recreation; and was always forth-coming, whenever an emergency required his presence. His domestic staff was well



appointed, and his zealous aide-de-camp, who was his valet for thirty years, never failed to produce his master at any hour of the day and night; which, perhaps, may furnish us with a reason why he was so frequently called in to cases of accidents, and consequently so often figured as a witness in the courts of justice. "Egad," said Jekyl one day, "we never have a *homicide*, or a *suicide*, or any other *cide*, without a *Heaviside*!"

The principal event in his life arose out of his professional attendance at the fatal duel between Colonel Montgomery and Captain Macnamara, in 1802. For this he was committed to Newgate, and during a whole fortnight subjected to much pain and anxiety. His friends, Messrs. Erskine and Garrow, Mr., afterwards Baron Wood, and others, volunteered their aid; but still, the dread of the capital punishment, and with it the forfeiture of his property, made his situation seriously uncomfortable. In this dilemma, his brokers, Messrs. Johnson and Langden, sold out his stock, which, together with the rest of his possessions, was conveyed to a third party in safety; and to the credit of these gentlemen it should be told, that, though the amount must have been an object to be desired, yet, under the circumstances of the case, they transacted the business without the charge of a single farthing. In the end, the grand jury ignored the bill against Mr. Heaviside.

This surgeon died on the 19th of September, 1828, much regretted by a large circle of admiring friends.

## CHAPTER II.

### MAD DOCTORS, AND MAD HOUSES.

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Importance of the subject—Instruction to Medical Witnesses—  
Curious cases of Insanity shewing the cunning of Lunatics—  
Remarkable mental delusions—A visit to a mad house—An  
affecting case of derangement—Sir W. Ellis on Insanity—  
Imaginary Queens and Lord Melbourne—Pinel and the four  
pseudo-French Kings. Pinel's grand experiment at the  
Bicêtre—Cowper the Poet—Moral treatment of Insanity—  
Latent Lunacy—Conditions of mind bordering on Insanity—  
The life of the celebrated Dr. Willis, who cured George III.  
—Drs. Haslam, Sutherland, Munro, Burrows, Morison,  
Pritchard, Conolly, and Combe.

THE subject upon which we are now entering is one of the highest interest—both to the medical world, and to the whole community; inasmuch as are included within it, not only questions of physiology, pathology, and medical jurisprudence, but likewise those which involve the liberty and happiness of every member of society. When called upon to decide in a case of ordinary disease, the physician may err in judgment, and his error may be productive of great evil to

the patient: his life may be jeopardized, or at least his health may be irrecoverably damaged; but if he errs in judging a case of suspected insanity, he not only perils the life and health of his patient, but his very liberty. Upon his decision, the man is to be either restored to the rank and privilege of a rational and responsible being, or to be subjected to those moral and physical restraints, which the law has deemed necessary to throw around the lunatic, for the protection of himself, his property, and the society in which he moves. It may be urged that whatever is the primary effect of a physician's opinion, in a case of suspected insanity—the ulterior proceedings and their results are not consequent upon his decision, but upon the verdict of a jury. But let it be remembered that the first step in the inquisition must be taken by the physician: he is called to examine the case, and without his certificate, the patient cannot be consigned to a mad-house;—by his report to the Lord Chancellor, when required to send him an opinion of the case, his lordship is guided in his decision, whether to dismiss the petition or to send the case to a jury;—and, lastly, when the writ *De Lunatico Inquirendo* is issued, the judgments of the commissioners and jury must be almost entirely governed by the evidence of the medical witnesses. How important then is the investigation of mental disease; and yet it is a melancholy fact, that there are no affections so little understood, or that have received so little attention, as diseases of the intellectual powers. It is astonishing how various have been the theories of insanity, and how much ignorance and quackery have



been, until a very recent period, exhibited in the treatment of the insane. At one period they were considered under satanic influence, and driven away from the abodes of men. Afterwards they were supposed to be affected by lunar changes, which opinion gave origin to the term lunatic, and prevails to this day to a great extent among the ignorant. Then it was supposed that the malady was not a bodily affection, but one which had seized upon the spiritual part, and therefore placed beyond the reach of physical remedies, so that medical treatment was regarded as altogether useless;—to this opinion is owing the neglect into which these investigations had fallen, and the discreditable ignorance of the great body of practitioners upon the subject of insanity. Of late years however great advances have been made, by improved theories and practice, towards both the comfort and restoration of the insane; and physicians are becoming more and more convinced of the value of medicine as a remedial agent in the cure of insanity. Still, however, it cannot be denied that this disease, in common with most of the class of nervous affections, is involved in great obscurity, of which we have a melancholy proof in almost every case where a judicial investigation is necessary. Lawyers are too apt to regard an enquiry into the state of a lunatic's mind as they would a case at *nisi prius*; and because of their fee, they deem it necessary to bring all the pettyfogging trickery of their profession, to bear down if possible the opposing testimony; and knowing the obscurity of the subject, and the difficulties which medical men have to con-

tend with, in arriving at a correct opinion, they most unfairly in their examination, endeavour to tie them down to definitions, and then, by showing their fallacy, weaken the whole effect of their testimony. An honest lawyer should remember, that he, with the commissioners, jury, and witnesses, have only one object, viz. the interest of the unfortunate lunatic: if he be of unsound mind, and incapable of managing himself and his affairs—doubtless humanity urges the necessity of all legal protection and restraint; but, if he be still, notwithstanding some eccentricity of conduct, a rational and responsible being, no fee, or reward, or party, should induce a man to mystify the subject, or obstruct, by skilful pleading or ingenious quibbling, the progress of truth. As however all lawyers will not be guided by such pure feelings toward the subject of their investigation, it is necessary for medical men to guard themselves well against any admissions which may, by a skilful advocate, be turned against them. As was before remarked, there is nothing so eagerly seized upon, as a definition—therefore the witness should be very cautious in committing himself by attempting to define insanity; and it will be wiser and better at once to acknowledge his incapacity to do so—than by a vain and ostentatious display of metaphysical lore, to peril the interest of a fellow creature.

The medical witness is called upon to say, from his previous examination of the case, and from the facts which have been brought before him, during the investigation in court, whether the supposed lunatic be of unsound mind, and incapable of managing himself and

his affairs with or without lucid intervals ; and, lastly, if unsound, when that unsoundness commenced. The term unsound mind, it must be confessed is one of the worst that could have been devised to denote that condition of mind which requires legal restraint, as it may include almost every variety and degree of mental disorder—from imbecile judgment to confirmed insanity. But the medical witness has nothing to do with the legal definition of the term. All that is required of him is to determine whether there exists, or has existed, such a morbid condition of the intellectual powers, as unfit a man for the management of himself or his affairs ; and it is not necessary that he should have proof of want of judgment and discretion in the control of his affairs, in order to judge him unfit for such control ; but he may infer such unfitness from the existence of depraved intellect. The great question for the physician's examination therefore is—does a morbid condition of the intellect exist ; and when did it commence ; and have there been, during its existence, any lucid intervals. In conducting his examination, the physician must never forget the exceeding cunning and subtlety often displayed by lunatics, in evading the evidence, and artfully concealing his real opinions and feelings. A curious case, tried before Lord Mansfield, may be adduced in illustration of this fact. A man named Wood, had indicted Dr. Monro for false imprisonment in a mad-house—he being sane. The plaintiff underwent a most severe examination by the defendant's counsel, without exposing his complaint ; but Dr. Battie having come upon the bench, and



having desired the judge to ask him what was become of the Princess whom he had corresponded with in cherry-juice, he showed in a moment his delusion, by answering that there was nothing at all in that, because having been (as every body knew) imprisoned in a high tower, and being debarred the use of ink, he had no other means of correspondence but by writing his letters in cherry-juice, and throwing them into the river which surrounded the tower, where the Princess received them in a boat. There existed of course, no tower, no imprisonment, no writing in cherry-juice, no river, no boat: but the whole the inveterate phantom of a morbid imagination. I immediately (continued Lord Mansfield) directed Dr. Monro to be acquitted; but this man Wood, being a merchant in Philpot Lane, and having been carried through the city in his way to the mad-house, indicted Dr. Monro over again, for the trespass and imprisonment in London, knowing that he had lost his cause by speaking of the Princess at Westminster: and such (said Lord Mansfield) is the extraordinary subtlety and cunning of madmen, that when he was cross-examined on the trial in London, in order to expose his madness, all the ingenuity of the bar, and all the authority of the court, could not make him say a single syllable upon that topic, which had put an end to the indictment before, although he still had the same indelible impression on his mind, as he signified to those who were near him; but conscious that the delusion had occasioned his defeat at Westminster, he obstinately persisted in concealing it.

Lord Erskine, in defending Hatfield, who was tried

for shooting at George the III. in Drury Lane Theatre, in 1800,\* mentioned a very striking instance of the cunning with which madmen sometimes stifle the disorder. Lord Erskine had wasted a whole day in a vain endeavour to demonstrate to the judge and jury the insanity of an unfortunate gentleman who had brought an action against his brother and the keeper of a mad-house for confining him in a mad house when he asserted his perfect sanity. He replied so well to Lord Erskine's queries, that the judge, the jury, and the audience believed that he was sane, and the victim of wanton oppression. At last Dr. Sims came into court, and suggested to Lord Erskine to enquire whether he did not believe himself to be *Jesus Christ*? Lord Erskine took the hint, and pretended to lament his ignorance, and the indecency of his examination; the poor gentleman expressed his forgiveness, and with the utmost gravity, in the face of the whole court, emphatically exclaimed, "I am the *Christ*!" and so the cause ended.

There are two modes of establishing this morbid

\* This unfortunate man had a child eight months old, of which he was passionately fond. On the day on which he attempted the life of the King, he went to the bed-side of the mother, who had the infant in her arms; and while the tears of affection for his offspring ran down his face, he seized it, and endeavoured to dash out its brains against the wall. This man was perfectly conscious that he was the husband of the woman, and the father of the child; he knew that it was criminal to perform the act which he contemplated; but he acted "under the overruling dominion of a morbid imagination."

state of the faculties; first, by showing the presence of a specific delusion—and secondly, by proving the existence of a series of extravagancies in opinion or conduct. The first is the most conclusive evidence which can be adduced; and when proved, carries conviction at once to the mind of the jury.

When the proof depends upon the existence of a series of extravagancies, the physician must guard himself against a trick which Lawyers sometimes practice in order to overturn the effect of this species of evidence. The witness has detailed a series of extravagant conduct, and has inferred therefrom the mental unsoundness of the patient; and, taken collectively, it may be as strong and unanswerable as any other description of evidence; but in the cross-examination of the witness, the counsel by a species of legal analysis, skilfully separates the whole conduct of the patient into detached portions, and putting each extravagance *seriatem* to the witness, enquires whether it is a proof of unsoundness; and thus may he be reduced to the necessity of renouncing his opinion, or of absurdly maintaining it, after all the evidence upon which it was based, has been knocked away. We have known a medical witness brought into this humiliating predicament by the ingenuity of counsel, because he had not nerve enough to explain, that the force of his evidence did not depend upon any single act of extravagance, but upon the whole conduct of the patient taken collectively.

We cannot better illustrate our views than by adding some cases of remarkable delusion, by which it will be shown that the utmost cunning and care are



often necessary to enable the practitioner to detect aberration of mind.

A gentleman who was insane, and had long been the inmate of a mad-house, wrote to his friends that he had recovered his senses, and although he was perfectly aware that he had been properly shut up, yet now that he was well, he trusted they would no longer force him to associate with madmen, and suffer all the miseries of the place in which he was confined. A clergyman and physician were sent to examine him, and their report was favourable to his sanity: his friends appointed a day to restore him to liberty and society. They went to the asylum, and were rejoiced to hear him converse so sensibly, that no doubt of his sanity existed in their minds, and they prepared to take him with them. As the party descended the stairs of the mad-house, a half-naked madman, in one of the cells called out, with a loud voice, "where are you taking that mad man? You shall repent of your folly,—for I am Neptune, I shall prevent any rain from falling upon the earth for many weeks, so that your crops will be burnt up and utterly destroyed." The madman whom the party was removing, looked round upon the poor maniac who had uttered this threat, with an expression of extreme contempt. "Do not regard his threat," said he, speaking to his friends, "he says he is NEPTUNE! well, I am JUPITER, and I can make it rain whenever I please."

A celebrated watch maker, at Paris, was infatuated with the chimera of perpetual motion; and to effect this discovery, he set to work with indefatigable

ardour. From unremitting attention to the object of his enthusiasm, coinciding with the influence of revolutionary disturbances, his imagination was greatly heated, his sleep was interrupted, and, at length, a complete derangement of the understanding took place. His case was marked by a most whimsical illusion of the imagination. He fancied that he had lost his head on the scaffold; that it had been thrown promiscuously among the heads of many other victims; that the judges, having repented of their cruel sentence, had ordered those heads to be restored to their respective owners, and placed upon their respective shoulders; but that, in consequence of an unfortunate mistake, the gentleman, who had the management of that business, had placed upon his shoulders the head of one of his unhappy companions. The idea of this whimsical exchange of his head occupied his thoughts night and day, which induced his relatives to send him to the Hôtel Dieu: from thence he was transferred to the Asylum de Bicêtre. Nothing could exceed the extravagance and ridiculousness of the notions which had taken possession of his imagination. He sung, cried, or danced incessantly; and, as there appeared no propensity in him to commit acts of violence or disturbance, he was allowed to wander about the hospital unrestrained, in order to expend, by evaporation, the effervescent excess of his spirits. "Look at these teeth," he constantly cried; "mine were exceedingly handsome—these are rotten and decayed. My mouth was sound and healthy—this is the reverse. This is not my

hair; this is not my nose; my cheeks were ruddy—these are pale and ghastly.”

It is to this extraordinary case that Moore alluded in his, “Fudge Family in Paris.”

“Went to a mad-house,—saw a man  
Who thinks, poor wretch, that, while the Fiend  
Of Discord here full riot ran,  
He, like the rest was guillotined;—

But that when, under BONEY’S reign,  
(A more discreet, though quite as strong one)  
The heads were all restored again,  
He, in the scramble, got a *wrong one*.

Accordingly he still cries out,  
“This strange head fits me most unpleasantly;”  
And always runs, poor dev’l, about,  
Inquiring for his own incessantly!”

In going round the wards of a large asylum, not far from the city of London, we entered a room where we saw a number of lunatics seated on each side of a long table. We sat down by a young man who had a very intelligent expression of countenance. He looked at us, and after bowing and saying, “How do ye do,” he exclaimed, “I am the king!” “Are you?” we replied, “we had no idea that we had the honour of sitting so near majesty.” “Oh, yes, I am the king,” he continued, “I have cured three hundred patients since I have been here. We have a grand feast to night. I shall let them all out of the house.



Will you come here this evening?" We questioned the lunatic as to what he intended to do. He said he was going to build a house up to heaven, and then asked us if we thought Christ would be angry. He promised us a seat next to the queen, and he appeared much delighted at our consenting to visit him in the evening.

We had a long conversation with a woman who imagined herself to be the Queen of the Belgians. She thought that Prince Leopold had treated her with great cruelty. She was convinced she was his lawful wife, and wished to know if we would promise to let the king know where she was, and how shamefully she was treated. On our promising to comply with her request she appeared satisfied.—In the same institution we saw an interesting case of mania caused by religious excitement. The poor youth who was remarkably interesting in appearance, was always engaged in prayer. The first thing he would do in the morning, was to go into one corner of the ward and stand over a sink, where he would remain the greater part of the day engaged in fervent prayer. No entreaties could induce him to abandon this practice.

Esquirol, in his work on the "Illusions of the Insane," relates several interesting cases which have formed the basis of some important observations relating to the treatment of insanity.

The famous T erouane de M ericourt lived ten years at the Salp etri ere in a state of madness. She used to throw two pails of water on her bed every morning

and evening, and lie down immediately afterwards. "I have seen her," says Esquirol, "break up the ice to procure water from the fountains."

An artillery officer, twenty-seven years of age, of a sanguineous temperament, and of a strong athletic form, was seized with an intermittent fever during the Prussian campaign. They made him swallow a large glass of brandy, into which they had mixed the gun-powder of two cartridges. He became mad immediately, and tore up every thing that fell in his way, linen, wearing apparel, and bed clothes; they were obliged to let him sleep upon straw. Feeling himself pricked, he placed the straw in a ring, leaving in the centre an empty space, which he occupied; he now moved his head in every direction, blowing incessantly upon the straw, which surrounded him, and screaming from time to time, as if to drive away menacing objects. This symptom continued night and day for more than three weeks. It was then discovered that he mistook the straws for the beaks of birds of prey that had wounded him. He blew upon the straw, and screamed in order to frighten away these annoying animals. Subsequently the same patient had new illusions of a still more extraordinary character.

A general officer, more than fifty years old, who had suffered from rheumatism during the war, was seized with furious madness after some domestic trials. His teeth were bad, and he suffered much from them. He attributed the pains he felt to the sun, and when they were very acute, he screamed in a most frightful

manner, and threatened to exterminate the sun with his brave troops. Sometimes the pains attacked one knee; he would then seize with one hand the afflicted part, and with the other hand closed would strike it violently, calling out, "Wretch! thou shalt not escape." He fancied he had a thief in that knee.

A woman, about fifty-seven years of age, of a strong constitution had been porteress at the nunnery of Notre-Dame, and was very devout. The events of the revolution with other circumstances connected with her bodily health, concurred to deprive her of reason, and she was taken to the Salpêtrière, where she lived a great number of years. She was of small size, had a thick and short neck, and large head, and her countenance had something mysterious about it. She was called the "mother of the church," because she spake incessantly on religious subjects. She fancied she had in her inside all the personages of the New Testament, and sometimes those of the Bible. She would frequently exclaim, "I can bear it no longer! when will there be peace in the church?" If her pains became more acute, she would add, with impurtable coolness, "They are crucifying Jesus Christ to-day; I hear the blows of the hammer as they drive in the nails." She imagined also that the pope held a council in her abdomen, and nothing could dissipate these ludicrous illusions. Upon the death of this patient, considerable structural disease was discovered in the abdominal cavity.

"We have," says Esquirol, "at Charenton, a



monomaniac who fancies he is conducted to the cellars of the opera every night, and that there, and sometimes in his own room, they stab him with poignards in his back and chest; then they cut off sometimes one of his arms, at other times one of his thighs, and sometimes even his head. When this unfortunate man is reminded that his head is on his shoulders, that he still possesses his limbs, and that his body displays no wounds, he answers, "They are witches, conjurers, and freemasons, who possess the secret of putting limbs on again, without its being perceived." If they insist upon it, he says, "You side with these monsters and brigands; kill me! kill me! I cannot bear their cruelty, nor resist the sufferings which they make me endure."

There is a patient confined in an asylum in the vicinity of London, whose insanity was caused by the political excitement which took place after the rejection of the Reform Bill, by the House of Lords. This man was actively engaged in promoting the establishment of the great political union, in London, and it was during this period that he evinced decided symptoms of mental aberration. His delusion took a singular turn. He fancied, and still fancies, himself a candidate for a seat in parliament. He occasionally mounts a bench, and harrangues in the most impassioned manner the other lunatics in the ward. He tells them to send him to the House of Commons, to represent their interests, by their unbought and unsolicited suffrages. We are told by a medical gentleman who has seen this case, that he affords considerable amusement

to the inmates of the asylum. He is most violent in his abuse of the House of Lords, for rejecting the "people's bill," as he terms it. This is his only delusion: when he is not engaged in speaking to the doctors, he is usually employed in writing addresses and advertisements. The gentleman under whose care he is placed, has frequently endeavoured to persuade him that the Reform bill was carried, and is now the law of the land. He laughs at the assertion, and says "it is a weak invention of the enemy." A *fracas* took place in the ward one afternoon, in consequence of a lunatic, who had just been admitted, and who of course, was unacquainted with the morbid delusion of this man, refusing to promise to vote for him. The would-be M. P. swore at him, made use of every opprobrious epithet he could think of, and at last commenced pummelling the lunatic. The other patients thought this an unparliamentary course of procedure, and took the poor man's part, and the result was, that the "reformer," was compelled to beat a retreat in order to escape the punishment which his conduct so richly deserved.

The following affecting case is recorded by Mr. Hill. A gentleman, on the point of marriage, left his intended bride for a short time; he usually travelled in the stage coach to the place of her abode; the last journey he took from her, was the last of his life. Anxiously expecting his return, she went to meet the vehicle. An old friend announced to her the death of her lover. She uttered an involuntary and piteous exclamation, "he is dead!" From

that fatal moment, for *fifty years*, has this unfortunate female daily, in all seasons, traversed the distance of a few miles, to the spot where she expected her future husband to alight from his coach, uttering, in a plaintive tone, “he has not come yet—I will return to-morrow.”

Sir W. Ellis, when speaking of the importance of paying an early attention to the first dawning of mental derangement, relates the following case: “I know an instance of a man who became insane from a sudden access of prosperity; but no notice was taken of his altered conduct, until he ordered a carriage and four to go London, to pay off the national debt. His friends then saw the necessity of placing him under medical care. It was too late; the disease had been allowed, from neglect, to gain a hold which was never recovered.”

Mary W., a woman of soft and pleasing manners, was under the care of the same physician. The only symptom of derangement which she exhibited, was that of imagining she was beset with witches. When at home, and occupied with her domestic concerns, she was quiet and industrious; but at other times, she would go about the house with a lighted candle, threatening to burn it down. She has been frequently known to get up in the most violent agitation, go into the passage, and fight the witches, with whom she was continually holding long conversations; but her principal intercourse with them was at night. It seldom, indeed, happened that she had not a violent complaint to make in the morning, of the ill-treat-



ment she had been receiving from them. They had pinched and bruised her all over, and would allow her to get no rest. The nurse used to report that she often heard her fighting with them the greater part of the night. Cases of this description are not easily cured.

It is a singular fact, that there are now confined, in the public and private establishments for the treatment of insanity, in London and the neighbourhood, no less than *sixty* men and women, who consider themselves the legitimate but unacknowledged sovereigns of the country! One female patient insists upon asserting that she is the real Victoria, and that she was confined in a mad-house, in order to prevent her from ascending the throne of her forefathers. This patient most pertinaciously affirms that she was sent to the asylum by Lord Melbourne, in order to make way for a lady with whom he was in love, and who now occupies the throne. It is most laughable to witness the pomposity with which this poor mad creature struts about the ward, exclaiming, "fall back, clear the way for your illustrious Queen Victoria!"

Pinel, states that he had at one period no less than four patients under his care, who imagined themselves to be Louis XVIII. Whenever they met, they always had a furious dispute about the questions of precedency; one affirming that he was the real king, and the others only imaginary monarchs. They created quite a disturbance in the ward, whenever these pseudo-kings came into collision. The keeper was compelled to have recourse to a stratagem, in

order to separate them. Going up to one man, he beckoned him aside, and whispered, "what a fool your Majesty is, to dispute with those low-minded plebeian fellows—we know that you are Louis XVIII. and it is lowering your dignity to contest the point with any man." "You are right—I am wrong, I will not do so," replied the patient. Having succeeded in inducing one lunatic to separate himself from the rest, the same stratagem was exercised towards the other three, and in this manner they were separated, and peace and harmony restored.

The editor of the "Medico-Chirurgical Review," observes that he was very much amused one day, while visiting the Lunatic Asylum, in Florence, (where it is the custom to send all insane people, whatever their station in life,) by the conversations of a priest and an advocate, who were monomaniacs of such a harmless description, that the keeper permitted them to accompany the editor round the whole of the wards and cells of that great and wretched asylum. These two inmates of this gloomy retreat were men of considerable talents and learning. They described, in most affecting terms, the various maniacs who paced the wards in musing melancholy, or muttering soliloquies, as well as those who clashed their chains in solitary confinement. Not a word escaped either of them, in the slightest degree indicative of a disordered mind, until they came to a man who fancied himself to be JESUS CHRIST.

The barrister made a full stop, and seized the narrator by the arm. "Thank my stars," said he,

glancing a look of ineffable contempt on the priest, "I am free from those superstitious fears and visionary dreams by which the vulgar are kept in thralldom by designing knaves, or ignorant enthusiasts! I worship the sun, the moon, the stars, the earth—in short, I worship NATURE, whatever form she may assume in the animal, vegetable, and mineral world around me, as well as those orbs which shine resplendent in the Heavens. I acknowledge no God but Nature." At this moment the priest seized the other arm of the narrator, and drew him forcibly aside, "You now see, sir," said he, "that the unhappy and lost wretch who deals out this impious and atheistical creed, is as complete a maniac as any of the numerous unfortunate beings whom we have been contemplating! He is otherwise harmless; but his words are pestilential, when he touches on the subject of Divine Revelation. I am, Sir, the only individual in this vast asylum who is in his perfect senses. I am cruelly and unjustly confined here: and, as I see you are a physician, I hope you will exert your influence in rescuing me from the company of maniacs." The narrator promised his exertion in the priest's favour, but soon found that he, too, had his delusion. It turned out that the barrister was not so insane on religious topics, as on some others. His insanity was first discovered by a pathetic love-letter he wrote to a beautiful young English lady at Florence!

Prior to the introduction of the improved treatment of Insanity by Pinel, the course adopted in the management of these cases was most revolting to the



judgment and feelings. Dr. Cullen, who was considered a high authority, recommended the infliction of corporeal punishment on maniacs, with a view of rendering them rational by impressing terror. From Dr. Mead's observation on madness, it would appear, that, in his time, flagellation was a common remedy for this disorder.

“There is,” says he, “no disease more to be dreaded than madness; for what greater unhappiness can befall a man, than to be deprived of his reason and understanding, to attack his fellow-creatures with fury, like a wild beast, to be tried down, *and even beat*, to prevent his doing mischief to himself and others.” Dramatic writers abound in allusion to the whip, in the treatment of madness. “Love is merely a madness, and, I tell you, deserves as well a dark house, and a whip, as madmen do: and the reason why they are not so punished and cured, is, that the lunacy is so ordinary, that the whippers are in love too.”\* That the system of coercion formerly adopted was attended by unfortunate results, no man, acquainted with the subject, will deny. It must be recollected that a madman seldom forgets the harsh and cruel treatment to which he may have been exposed, and, if an opportunity presents itself, he may resent it. A patient who was confined in the Manchester Lunatic Asylum had been subjected to very cruel treatment, and, in consequence of it, he killed the person who had the care of him. He related, with great calmness

\* “As You Like It.”

and self-possession, the particulars of the transaction to Dr. Haslam. He said, "The man whom I stabbed richly deserved it. He behaved to me with great violence and cruelty; he degraded my nature as a human being; he tied me down, hand-cuffed me, and confined my hands much higher than my head with a leathern thong; he stretched me on the bed of torture. After some days he released me. I gave him warning; for I told his wife I would have justice of him. On her communicating this to him, he came to me in a furious passion, threw me down, dragged me through the court-yard, thumped me on my breast, and confined me in a dark and damp cell. Not liking this situation, I was induced to play the hypocrite. I pretended extreme sorrow for having threatened him, and by an affectation of repentance, prevailed on him to release me. For several days I paid him great attention, and lent him every assistance. He seemed much pleased with the flattery, and became very friendly in his behaviour towards me. Going one day into the kitchen, where his wife was busied, I saw a knife: this was too great a temptation to be resisted. I concealed it about my person, and carried it with me. For some time afterwards the same friendly intercourse was maintained between us; but, as he was one day unlocking his garden door, I seized the opportunity, and plunged the knife up to the hilt in his back." He always mentioned this circumstance, says Dr. Haslam, "with peculiar triumph, and his countenance (the most cunning and malignant I ever

beheld) became highly animated at the conclusion of the story."

Towards the end of 1792, Pinel, after having many times urged the government to allow him to unchain the maniacs of the Bicêtre, but in vain, went himself to the authorities, and, with much earnestness and warmth, advocated the removal of this monstrous abuse. Couthon, a member of the commune, gave way to M. Pinel's arguments, and agreed to meet him at the Bicêtre. Couthon then interrogated those who were chained; but the abuse he received, and the confused sounds of cries, vociferations, and clanking of chains in the filthy and damp cells, made him recoil from Pinel's proposition. "You may do what you like with them," said he, "but I fear you will become their victim." Pinel instantly commenced his undertaking. There were about fifty whom he considered might, without danger to the others, be unchained; and he began by releasing twelve, with the sole precaution of having previously prepared the same number of strong waistcoats, with long sleeves, which could be tied behind the back, if necessary. The first man on whom the experiment was to be tried was an English captain, whose history no one knew, as he had been in chains for forty years. He was thought to be one of the most furious among them; his keepers approached him with caution, as he had, in a fit of fury killed one of them on the spot with a blow from his manacles. He was chained more vigorously than any of the others. Pinel entered his cell unattended, and



calmly said to him, "Captain, I will order your chains to be taken off, and give you liberty to walk in the court, if you will promise to behave well, and injure no one!" "Yes, I promise you," said the maniac; "but you are laughing at me, you are all too much afraid of me." "I have six men," answered Pinel, "ready to enforce my commands, if necessary. Believe me, then, on my word, I will give you liberty if you will put on this waistcoat."

He submitted to this willingly, without a word: his chains were knocked off, and the keepers retired, leaving the door of his cell open. He raised himself many times from his seat, but fell again on it, for he had been in a sitting posture so long, that he had lost the use of his legs; in a quarter of an hour he succeeded in maintaining his balance, and, with tottering steps, came to the door of his dark cell. His first look was at the sky, and he cried out enthusiastically, "*How beautiful!*" During the rest of the day, he was constantly in motion, walking up and down the stair-cases, and uttering short exclamations of delight. In the evening he returned of his own accord into his cell, where a better bed, than he had been accustomed to had been prepared for him, and he slept tranquilly. During the two succeeding years, which he spent in the Bicêtre, he had no return of his previous paroxysms; but even rendered himself useful by exercising a kind of authority over the insane patients, whom he ruled in his own fashion.

The next unfortunate being whom Pinel visited was a soldier of the French guards, whose only fault

was drunkenness : when once he lost self-command, by drink, he became quarrelsome and violent, and the more dangerous from his great bodily strength. From his frequent excesses he had been discharged from his corps, and he had speedily dissipated his scanty means. Disgrace and misery had so depressed him that he became insane : in his paroxysms he believed himself a general, and fought those who would not acknowledge his rank. After a furious struggle of this sort he was brought to the Bicêtre, in a state of the greatest excitement. He had now been chained for ten years, and with greater care than the others, from his having frequently broken his chains with his hands only. Once, when he broke loose, he defied all his keepers to enter his cell until they had each passed under his legs ; and he compelled eight men to obey this strange command. Pinel, in his previous visits to him, regarded him as a man of original good-nature ; but, that, under excitement, incessantly kept up by cruel treatment, he had become almost altered in his nature. Pinel succeeded in making him calm by promising to ameliorate his condition : he told him he should be chained no longer ; and, to prove that he had confidence in him, and believed him to be a man capable of better things, he called on him to assist in releasing those others who had not reason like himself, promising if he conducted himself well, to take him into his own service. The change was sudden and complete. No sooner was he liberated than he became obliging and attentive, following with his eye every

motion of Pinel, and executing his orders with as much address as promptness: he spoke kindly and reasonably to the other patients; and, during the rest of his life, was entirely devoted to his deliverer. "I can never hear without emotion (says Pinel's son) the name of this man, who, some years after this occurrence, shared with me the games of my childhood, and to whom I shall always feel attached."

In the next cell were three Prussian soldiers, who had been in chains for many years, but on what account no one knew. They were, in general, calm and inoffensive, becoming animated only when conversing together in their own language, which was unintelligible to others. They were allowed the only consolation of which they appeared sensible—to live together. The preparations taken to release them alarmed them, as they imagined the keepers were come to inflict new severities; and they opposed them violently when removing their irons. When released they were unwilling to leave their prison, and remained in their habitual posture. Either grief or loss of intellect had rendered them indifferent to liberty.

Near them was an old priest who was possessed with the idea that he was Christ: his appearance indicated the vanity of his belief; he was grave and solemn; his smile soft, and, at the same time, severe, repelling all familiarity; his hair was long, and hung on each side of his face, which was pale, intelligent, and resigned. On his being once taunted with a question, that, "if he was Christ, he could break his chains," he solemnly replied, "*Frustra tentaris Domi-*



*num tuum.*” His whole life was a romance of religious excitement. He undertook, on foot, pilgrimages to Cologne and Rome; and made a voyage to America for the purpose of converting the Indians: his dominant idea became changed into actual mania; and, on his return to Paris, he even pronounced himself as the Saviour. He was taken by the police before the Archbishop of Paris, by whose orders he was confined in the Bicêtre, as either impious or insane. His hands and feet were loaded with heavy chains; and, during twelve years, he bore with exemplary patience this martyrdom. Pinel did not attempt to reason with him, but ordered him to be unchained in silence; directing, at the same time, that every one should imitate the old man’s reserve, and never speak to him. This order was rigorously observed, and produced on the patient a more decided effect than either chains or a dungeon: he became humiliated by this unusual isolation, and, after hesitating for a long time, gradually introduced himself to the society of the other patients. From this time his notions became more just and sensible, and, in less than a year, he acknowledged the absurdity of his previous prepossession, and was dismissed from the Bicêtre.

In the course of a few days, Pinel released fifty-three maniacs from their chains: among them were men of all conditions and countries; workmen, merchants, soldiers, lawyers, &c. The result was beyond his hopes. Tranquillity and harmony succeeded to tumult and disorder; and the whole discipline was marked with a regularity and kindness, which had the most

favourable effect on the insane themselves, rendering even the most furious more tractable.\*

Too little attention has been paid to the moral, and too much to the physical treatment of insanity. We will admit, that it is no easy matter to reason a madman out of the delusions which have taken such forcible possession of his imagination; but even in these cases, much good is often effected by a timely appeal to the reasoning faculties. We all recollect the case related by Dr. Darwin, of a man who became persuaded, without real cause, that he was insolvent, being cured of his delusion by the diligent perusal of a correct list of "debtor and creditor." "Now and then," says Dr. Conolly, "an absurd delusion has been banished by ludicrous devices, as in the example of a gentleman, the situation of whose lodgings being opposite to the house of an industrious cobbler, had so led him to the habitual contemplation of his neighbour, as to make him seriously alarmed by the cobbler's unusual absence from his stall, and to believe that he had himself actually swallowed him in his working dress: in this case, the action of a violent emetic, and the sudden appearance of the cobbler on the floor, completely dispelled the morbid idea."

An affecting instance of the power of a timely appeal to the reason, occurs in the life of Cowper, whose great genius, it is well known, was too often overshadowed by religious despondency. In the

\* *Memoires de l' Academie de Medicine* iv. i. 1835.

account he gives of a conversation he had with his brother, who visited him at Dr. Cotton's, he says,—“as soon as we were left alone, my brother asked me how I found myself, I answered, as much better as despair can make me! We went together in the garden. Here, on my expressing a settled assurance of sudden judgment, he protested to me that it was all a delusion, and protested so strongly, that I could not help giving some attention to him. I burst into tears, and cried out, ‘if it be a delusion, then I am one of the most happy of human beings!’ Something like a ray of hope was shot into my heart, but still I was afraid to indulge it. After this conversation, I began to recover.”

There is a condition of the mind bordering on the confines of insanity, but, which cannot strictly or legally be considered as such. A man may exhibit strange eccentricities, marked departures from what would be considered as characteristic of “sound mind,” and yet ought not to be subjected to restraint.

A gentleman fancied the devil came to him nightly, for the purpose of teaching him boxing; and that he used to have imaginary nocturnal conflicts with his satanic majesty, who never omitted his visits. This was insanity; but it would have been injudicious to have confined him in a mad-house: his delusion was of an innocent nature, and did not interfere with his ordinary avocations.—Another man fancied himself a bouquet of flowers, and was constantly requesting his friends to approach him, in order to enjoy the perfume. This person was capable of



transacting the business of life, and did so with satisfaction to his family.—Harrington, the author of *Oceana*, cherished the notion that his animal spirits transpired from him in the shape of birds, or flies, or bees; much of his conversation turned on good or evil spirits; and he would use strong arguments to prove that his sensorial illusions were realities; but on all other subjects he was clear and rational.

Had Glanvil, who wrote concerning witches and apparitions, and who believed in their existence, been examined in a court of law, on a *charge* of madness, he would have stood but little chance of escaping confinement in a lunatic asylum; yet Glanvil was never considered mad, but lived and died highly respected—being Chaplain to the King, and Fellow of the Royal Society.

Cowper's despondency, so often alluded to as the effect of religious enthusiasm, appears to us, from an attentive perusal of the Poet's life, not to have arisen from this cause—at least, the religious gloom which overspread his mind was not the cause, but the effect, of his insanity. All the biographers of Cowper admit their inability to account for his dejection, and *all of them reject the supposition that religious enthusiasm had anything to do with its production.* Cowper says, in alluding to his spirits during his residence in the Temple, where he was first seized with his disorder—"I was attacked with such a dejection of spirits, as none but those who have felt the same can have the least conception of. Day and

night I was upon the rack, lying down in horror, and rising up in despair. I frequently lost all relish for those studies to which I had before been closely attached. The classics had no longer any charm for me; I had need of something more salutary than amusement, but I had no one to direct me where to find it." This great depression in Cowper's spirit came on previous to his having supposed that he was rebuked by the Almighty, during his visit at Southampton. It was from this time that he believed that he had committed "the unpardonable sin;" and in this delusion of mind his insanity was manifested. "There is nothing," says the Rev. Mr. Stebbing, in his life of this Poet, "in the correspondence of Cowper, that should induce us to believe that either enthusiasm or melancholy had been the consequence of his deep and fervent piety. Everything that we know of the life of this amiable man, tends to convince us that no abstract opinions, of any kind, could reasonably be assigned as a cause of his gloom, either at the period of which we are speaking, or at any other. His melancholy, indeed, might strongly influence his religious belief, might embitter the waters of life, even as they were poured out fresh into his cup—it might make him think of God with terror, and imagine that the dark shadow of his own earthly fate was thrown far as he could see over the abyss of futurity—but it could do no more; religion never clogs the veins, nor distempers the intellect; and when its revelations are made a subject of

unnatural fear, it is when the sun and stars are as fraught with signs, as the scriptures with declarations of destruction.”

Cowper's madness, most undoubtedly, originated from some bodily ailment. “That under happier circumstances,” says Mr. Madden, in his *Infirmities of Genius*, “and with due attention to the *digestive* organs, Cowper might have been rescued from the misery he endured through life, there is every reason to believe; and that like Dr. Johnson, he might have acquired the power of ‘managing his mind,’ and even, to a great extent, of ‘mastering its ailments.’ But all through his disorder, the *digestive organs were impaired and neglected*: to use the words of his biographer, the ‘process of digestion never passed regularly in his frame during the years he resided at Norfolk;’ and this little paragraph is the essence of the ‘history and mystery’ of Cowper's malady. Such, indeed, was the true source of his hypochondria; and to whatever gulf the torrent of his dejection hurried him, whether of insanity or eccentricity, religious enthusiasm was but a tributary stream, which found a ready channel to receive its troubled waters. The original current might indeed have been augmented by their increase, till the banks of reason were broken down by its aggravated fury; but the source of the mischief must be traced to the fountain head, and not to the feeble stream that fed its violence.”\*

\* Vol. II. p. 103.



In Cowper's case we see an exemplification of a remarkable fact noticed in some cases of insanity, that as the bodily health of the patient becomes improved, so in proportion does his mental malady exhibit itself more strongly. This was the case in the present instance; and Dr. Johnson has observed the same phenomenon in the case of his friend Smart, who was confined in Bedlam, where Dr. Johnson used frequently to visit him. When Smart's disease became incurable, Johnson remarked that a sensible change had taken place in his appearance—he had grown quite fat since he last saw him.

On a subject of the influence of religion, it behoves us to speak with considerable caution, and not be too ready to admit, with some, that more cases of madness arise from religious excitement than from any other cause; or to agree with those who go to the other extent, and deny *in toto* that insanity ever originates from the exercise of the mind on subjects connected with religion. That religion has a very great influence on mankind no one will refuse to admit, perhaps more than all the other passions collectively; but that mental derangement is more attributable to this cause than to others, is an assertion purely gratuitous, and not founded on a correct or enlarged observation of facts. No doubt that very sudden changes in religious opinion have frequently the effect of unsettling the mind, and giving rise to insanity. A very able and eloquent writer, in alluding to the extravagancies which marked the dawn of the Reformation, observes, that “when the human mind is roused

by grand objects, and agitated by strong passions, its operations acquire such force, that they are apt to become irregular and extravagant upon any great revolution in religion: such irregularities abound most at that particular period, when men, having thrown off the authority of their ancient principles, do not yet fully comprehend the nature, or feel the obligation, of those new tenets which they have embraced. The mind, in that situation, pushing forward with the boldness which prompted it to reject established opinions, and not guided by a clear knowledge of the system substituted in their place, disdains all restraint, and runs into wild notions, which often lead to scandalous and immoral conduct. Such was the effect in the first ages of Christianity, as well as at the era of the Reformation. The renunciation of the ancient faith, and ignorance of that which they had embraced in lieu of it, excited converts to acts more resembling insanity, than any of that religion which inculcates the purest morality, and the government of our passions.\*”

Strong fanatical excitement operates more powerfully in deranging the mind, when those exposed to its influence have a constitutional predisposition to insanity, or in whom the devotional faculties are powerfully developed. A case once came under our observation, of a woman whose mind became deranged in consequence of strong excitement of her devotional feelings, produced by listening to the fanatical exhor-

\* Robertson's History of Charles V., vol. II.

tation of one, whom Pope would designate as a “saint run mad.”

“For Virtue’s self may too much zeal be had ;  
The worst of madmen, is a saint run mad.”

When the human mind is concentrated upon *one subject*, whether it be of a religious or any other nature, that mind is liable to become deranged, and in this manner an earnest devotion to the subject of religion may cause insanity. We see this principle exemplified in cases of mental derangement, not arising from religious excitement, in a variety of instances, where an exclusive devotion of the attention to a branch of study which calls into exercise the imagination, has eventually produced madness. Nathaniel Lee, the celebrated dramatist, was mad in consequence of his having concentrated his attention to the developement of a particular character in his famous play, entitled “Cæsar Borgia.” Lee’s madness has been attributed by some to his having written a particular line or passage in this play, in which he beautifully describes the insanity of one of his characters. He makes him thus speak :—

“To my charmed ears no more of woman tell ;  
Name not a woman, and I shall be well :  
Like a poor lunatic that makes his moan,  
And for a while beguiles his lookers-on ;  
He reasons well, his eyes their wildness lose,  
He vows his keepers his wrong’d sense abuse ;  
But if you *hit the cause that hurts his brain*,  
Then his teeth gnash, he foams, he shakes his chain,  
His eye-balls roll, and he is mad again.”



We have beautiful illustrations of the effect of devotion to one subject, in Dr. Johnson's *Rasselas*, and Cervante's *Don Quixote*, &c.

Religion, we assert, was not the primary cause of the gloominess of mind and melancholy which were so prominent in the characters of Cowper, Byron, Burns, and Tasso ; and even Dr. Johnson, possessing, perhaps, in every other respect, the most powerful mind with which a human creature was ever endowed, was at times a prey to bitter melancholy, and to the most childish fears of death. So much was this great moralist affected, that he confessed to Dr. Adam, who, on visiting him one day, found him in a most deplorable condition, sighing, groaning, that to "recover his spirits he would consent to have a limb amputated." We have not, perhaps, a more remarkable instance of the influence of the passion of fear over the intellectual faculties of man on record, than the case we are now referring to. No man can question the strength of mind, or Christian feeling of Dr. Johnson ; but we find it stated by Murphy, that, notwithstanding he was endowed with an almost supernatural degree of intellectual power, the prospect of death was dreadful to his mind. He who could exult in Addison's last words, "see how a Christian can die," was constantly exclaiming against the prospect of the last struggle, and repeating the lines of Shakspeare—

"To die, and go we know not where."

But this melancholy failing, it is acknowledged by

all his biographers, and those best acquainted with Johnson's character, did not originate in any defect in his mind, but in a bodily complaint to which he was liable. The melancholy of Byron arose from the same cause; but in the poet's case, the feeling was encouraged. This is evident from the fact of his frequently, when sunk in melancholy, repeating the well-known lines of his friend Rogers—

“Go, you may call it madness, folly,  
You shall not chase my gloom away;  
There's such a charm in melancholy,  
I would not, if I could, be gay.”

Byron's mind was constantly impressed with the notion that he was destined to die a madman. “I must write,” he exclaims in his journal, “to empty my mind, or I shall go mad.”

Whether it be possible, by any course of treatment, to obviate these disordered conditions of the imagination, these *extra* mental developements, it is impossible to say.—A case of inordinate self-esteem was thus cured: A nobleman attached to the court of France was so disagreeably vain in conversation, that the king was pleased to direct his cure, which was thus performed:—two gentlemen were directed always to attend him, one to stand behind his chair, and the other at a respectful distance before him. Whenever his lordship began to speak, one of them always exclaimed, “Lord Gallimansre is going to say the best thing in the world;” and as soon as his lordship had

done speaking, the other attendant vociferated, "Lord Gallimansre *has* spoken the best thing in the world." This effected a cure, and the king dismissed his lordship's keepers.

There cannot be a more important fact impressed on the public mind than this, that the treatment of mental derangement is successful in proportion as the disease is grappled with in its very first onset. That there is such a thing as a patient being conscious of his mind becoming deranged there cannot be a doubt. We had a long and interesting conversation with a man confined in one of the county lunatic asylums, who was subject to fits of mental aberration. A few weeks' residence in the hospital was sufficient to restore his mind to its healthy balance, and then being pronounced cured, he was permitted to enjoy his liberty. His mind was, however, too weak to allow him to bear much excitement, and he told us that when he had been out for a few weeks, and found his derangement returning, he was in the habit of voluntarily surrendering himself, and was admitted again as a patient in the hospital.

"To know ourselves diseased is half our cure," says Young. "I am going mad," said a lady who had been subjected to great mental anxiety; and accordingly the physician of the family was consulted, and by the adoption of a judicious course of treatment, the disease was nipped in its bud.

A curious case is related, which shows that a person labouring under derangement of mind may be conscious of his infirmity. An intriguing, unruly, vicious,



male lunatic was detected with a piece of iron, which he had contrived to shape like a dagger, with a handle firmly fixed to it. Of course it was removed. He immediately became excessively abusive, and restraint was placed on him, and he was secured with handmuffs. On this he lost all command of temper; and uttering the most revolting imprecations, exclaimed to his keeper, "*I'll murder you yet: I am a madman, and they cannot hang me for it!*"

The subject of *latent* lunacy is an untouched field, which would afford the richest harvest to a skilful and diligent observer. Cervantes, who is represented as having "laughed Spain's chivalry away," has immortalized himself, by displaying the effect of one bad species of composition on the hero of his satire: and Butler has delineated the evils of epidemic, religious, and political phrensy: but it remains a task for some delicate pencil to trace the miseries introduced into private families, by a state of mind, which "sees more devils than vast hell can hold," and yet affords no proof of derangement sufficient to justify the seclusion of the unhappy invalid. This is *a species of distress* on which no novelist has yet touched, though it is unfortunately *increasing in real life*; and may often be associated with worth, with genius, and with the most specious demonstrations of general excellence.\*

In Dr. Conolly's work on Insanity, he has brought forward many amusing illustrations of those inequa-

\* Dr. Ferriar's Theory of Apparitions.

lities of the understanding which do not amount to derangement of mind, but which may properly be considered as bordering on disease. As this subject is important to those anxious to form a correct view of the philosophy and pathology of the human mind, we shall take the liberty of quoting, from his able treatise, a few of the instances which he has adduced in support of his peculiar opinions.

An aversion to particular sounds, and a peculiar affection for others, is very common, even when no circumstance of association accounts for the peculiarity. Dr. Reid had a patient, who had a great dislike to light colours, and used to beg him, before he paid his visit, to cover his white stockings with a dark apron. A famous Russian general entertained a singular antipathy to mirrors, and the Empress Catherine always took care to give him audience in the room without any. Dr. Conolly has known patients, in whom there was a tendency to mania, complain of the difficulty they had in guarding against dislike, not only of particular individuals, but of particular parts of a room, or of particular articles of furniture or dress; these momentary feelings of uneasiness or antipathy, to which all are subject, becoming in them aggravated and prolonged. It is recorded of one of our English poets, that his chief delight was to sit still all day and have his hair combed by an attendant.

Many interesting cases are on record of persons who, in consequence of their labouring under a morbid condition of the nervous system, have imagined

that they heard voices speaking to them, and seen figures of men and women and children gliding about.

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“ Our very eyes  
Are sometimes, like our judgments, blind.”

The case of Nicolai is too well known to be more particularly referred to. Ben Jonson, whose memory was remarkably tenacious, and whose imagination was sufficiently lively, appears occasionally to have experienced these false sensations. He told Drummond, that he spent a whole night in lying looking at his great toe, about which he had seen Tartars, Turks, Romans, and Carthaginians, riding and fighting: but he knew that these were the effects of his heated fancy. The vision he had, whilst at Sir Robert Cotton's house in the country, of his son who was dying of the plague in London, had probably a similar origin.

“ A gentleman,” says Dr. Conolly, “ residing in a part of the country with which I am well acquainted, easy in his circumstances, and not unhappy in his family, conceived an aversion to interchanging a word with any body whatever. He would avoid people whom he saw approaching, or leave the room when they entered it. He generally had his hands clasped before him, and used to deal much in short exclamations, such as, “ Lord, have mercy upon us ;” “ what a wicked world this is,” and so forth. Yet this man, when circumstances compelled him into conversation,



wanted none of the powers, and had lost none of the information, requisite for performing his part in it with credit."

Among those who have devoted themselves to the treatment of insanity, we must not forget to mention the name of the REV. FRANCIS WILLIS, who, although not regularly educated as a medical man, was, on account of his skill in the treatment of mental disease, called in to attend George III.

Willis was a student of Brazen-nose College, Oxford, where he graduated M. A. and took holy orders, and obtained sometime afterwards the living of St. John's, Wapping. Having, however, previously to his ordination, paid some attention to physic, he made his knowledge of that art so useful to his neighbours, that the doctors of Thetford, in Lincolnshire, where he resided, were greatly incensed at his success, and threatened him with a prosecution. This induced him to procure a medical diploma, which was granted him by the University of Oxford, in 1759, and shortly afterwards he became celebrated for his treatment of Insanity. He was called in to George the III. at the suggestion of Dr. Addington. He assured the Ministers and the queen that the king would speedily recover. Unpleasant altercations took place among the physicians. Willis was strongly suspected of circulating reports rather gratifying to the minister than consonant to truth. He regularly sent to him every night a particular message, and generally by his son. On the 16th, whilst the subject of the king's illness was being debated in the House of Commons, Mr. Pitt

and his friends declared that that evening, at eleven o'clock, the son of Dr. Willis arrived at the Treasury, with the satisfactory account that a happy change had taken place; and that Dr. Willis considered it as a certain indication of the king's speedy recovery.

Dr. Warren thought otherwise, and was surprised at Willis's statement. He accordingly went to Kew early on the morning of the 18th. Dr. Willis met him in the anti-chamber, assured him the king was going on well, said he was perfectly composed, and begged that Dr. Warren would not make a point of seeing his majesty, as his appearance would certainly disturb him. Warren, surprised at this language, desired to see the pages. To his first question, "How is the king?" the reply was, "Very bad, indeed." To his second, "What sort of night has his majesty passed?" "A terrible one," was the answer.

Warren then insisted upon being introduced. The sight of the doctor produced no painful sensation. The king was not discomposed by it. A partial recollection operating on an habitual consciousness of dignity (which never forsook his majesty in his most unhappy moments), he was prompted to say, "I have been very ill indeed, Dr. Warren, and I have put myself into this waistcoat, but it is uneasy to me; will you take it off?" Warren hesitated for a moment, but, attentively surveying the royal sufferer, he perceived that his exhausted strength made the indulgence safe, and he replied, untying the waistcoat, "Most willingly do I obey you, Sire."

Warren afterwards remonstrated with Willis upon

the disingenuousness of his conduct, and protested that so long as he should have the honour to retain an appointment, he should scrupulously discharge his duty to his majesty and to the public, whose anxious solicitude entitled them to the full and true information respecting his state.

His majesty, we should have stated before, had a strong presentiment of his malady before it fully developed itself. Four or five evenings prior to his being taken ill, after a private concert, his majesty went up to Dr. Ayrton, and laying his hand on the doctor's shoulder, with his usual benignity, "I fear, Sir," said his majesty, "I shall not long be able to hear music, it seems to affect my head, and it is with some difficulty I bear it." Then turning round, he softly ejaculated, "Alas! the best of men are but frail mortals."

Some very interesting facts respecting the state of the king's illness, are contained in the second report of the committee appointed to examine the physicians, and which, in a great measure, elucidated the cause of the differences which subsisted between his majesty's medical attendants, and which was a source of much affliction to the queen, and perplexity to the people.

Sir Lucas Pepys was first examined. He declared "that there was a positive order that nobody should go into his majesty's room, without Dr. Willis's leave; that modes of coercion were not used before Dr. Willis came about the king; that sometimes his majesty is more irritable when either Dr. Willis or his



son is present : that he cannot speak with certainty as to his recovery.”

Dr. Willis, on his examination, stated that the king was not fit to go to public concerts, and that he could not state positively when he would recover.

Dr. Warren related the circumstance of a transaction, in which Dr. Willis, in his opinion, made, on the preceding day, a very unwarrantable use of the name of a great person.

The report proposed to be sent was written thus:—  
“‘His majesty passed yesterday a good night, and is calm this morning.’ Dr. Willis desired that some expressions might be made use of, indicating that his majesty was advanced, since the day before, in his cure. I objected to this, because I had ample reason, from my conversation with his majesty, and from the information I received from Mr. Charles Hawkins, to think the contrary true. Dr. Willis then said, ‘a certain great person will not suffer it to go so, and it will fall on you.’ I made no observation on these words, but after talking with him a little more on the subject of his majesty, composed, together with Dr. Reynolds, the following report:—‘His majesty passed yesterday much in the same manner as he did before; has had a very good night, and is this morning as he was yesterday.’” This report was afterwards slightly altered at Dr. Willis’s suggestion.

Dr. Warren gave the following account of some incidents respecting the conduct of Dr. Willis, which have been much referred to:—

“The day that I introduced Dr. Willis to the king,

I summoned the rest of his majesty's physicians to a consultation at my house. It was there first settled as a principle, that quiet of body and mind were to be obtained by every possible means, and that every thing should be carefully kept from his majesty that might tend to prevent this desirable acquisition. It was settled that a regular coercion should be made use of—that every thing should be kept from his majesty that was likely to excite any emotion—that though his majesty had not shown any signs of an intention to injure himself, yet that it was absolutely necessary, considering the sudden impulses to which his distemper subjects people, to put every thing out of the way that could do any mischief. To all which Dr. Willis assented, yet the very next day he put a razor and a penknife into his majesty's hand."

There appears to have been a great jealousy between Drs. Warren and Willis during the whole of the king's illness. Warren complained very much of Willis having put into the king's hands a volume of Colman's edition of the plays of Shakespeare, containing King Lear.

The following is the account of the queen's first interview with the king after his recovery. It took place in the presence of Dr. Willis. The interview was to last only a *quarter of an hour*. The scene was extremely interesting and affecting. The queen bore it with uncommon firmness, but his majesty displayed every visible mark of perturbation. When the stipulated period had expired, Dr. Willis put his majesty in mind of his royal promise, but to very little purpose,

till he added, "That as the room was rather cold, a longer continuance might injure *her majesty's* health." This instantly produced the intended effect, and he took leave of the queen in a most affectionate manner.

On one occasion when Dr. Warren entered the king's apartment, he found him sitting quietly and attentively considering the Court Calender, which he was translating from beginning to end, into doggerel Latin. He accosted Warren upon his entrance, "Ricardensus Warrenensus, baronetensus."

For the following particulars of this eminent physician, we are indebted to Sir N. W. Wraxall, Bart.\*

Among the individuals whose reputation was well established in the treatment of insanity, was the Rev. Dr. Willis; for though he no longer performed any clerical functions, yet he united in his person the medical and ecclesiastical professions. He had attained, if not passed, his 70th year. Assisted by two sons, he had dedicated himself, during a great portion of his life, to the exclusive care of persons deprived of reason. "I have been," says Sir N. W. Wraxall, "in his company, not long after his majesty's recovery. He (Dr. W.) seemed to be exempt from all the infirmities of old age; and his countenance, which was very interesting, blended intelligence with an expression of placid self-possession. When summoned to attend the king, he readily obeyed, but, at the same time, he frankly informed her majesty, that if she ex-

\* "Posthumous Memoirs," vol. III.



pected any benefit to accrue from his attendance, he must be allowed to exercise the same authority which he should do over the meanest individual submitted to his control. He brought his own keepers with him, and dismissed every body who was in attendance upon his majesty. The furniture was changed, and every thing was done to deprive his patient of old associations.

A proof which he displayed of his empire over his patient excited great amazement, not unmixed with alarm, as well as admiration. The king had not undergone the operation of shaving during more than five weeks, nor would submit to have it performed, yet expressed a strong desire to shave himself. Willis gratified him in this wish. "Your majesty," said he, "is desirous to get rid of your beard. You shall have a razor given to you for the purpose." He instantly put the instrument into the king's hand, who went through the process with perfect success, Willis governing him by the eye throughout the whole performance.

Dr. Warren, in his examination before the Parliamentary committee, stated that when he asked Dr. Willis how he could trust the king with a razor, he said "I shuddered at what I had done."

The celebrated Edmund Burke asked Willis how he should have acted if his majesty had been seized suddenly with frenzy, while the razor was in his hand. Upon this Dr. Willis desired two vivid lights to be placed between the great orator and himself, and exclaimed, "There now, I should look at him thus,"

darting, at the same time, such a look at Burke from his appalling eyes, as made him recoil with affright. This mode of looking at a maniac, he observed, would cause him to quail more effectually than chains or manacles.

The experiment of allowing a maniac to shave himself, when we reflect *who* that maniac was, may appear to partake of temerity; nor could it have been safely tried under a despotic government, where the physician would, probably, have been sacrificed if his patient had committed violence on himself.\*

When in a more advanced stage of convalescence, his majesty asked Willis, if he thought he might safely indulge in his favourite amusement of riding, to which the doctor with delicacy objected, assigning at the same time such professional reasons as gave

\* When Dr. Dimsdale inoculated Catherine the Second, for the small-pox, that princess, who, whatever might be the vices of her moral character, possessed a very enlarged and magnanimous mind, took precautions for securing his personal safety, in case of her death. Finding herself much indisposed on a particular day, she sent for Dimsdale, whom she had already remunerated in a manner becoming so great a sovereign. "I perceive," said she, "certain sensations, which render me apprehensive for my life. My subjects would, I fear, hold you accountable for any accident that might befall me. I have, therefore, stationed a yacht in the Gulf of Finland, on board of which you will embark as soon as I am no more, and whose commander, in consequence of my orders, will convey you out of all danger." This anecdote, so favourable to the Empress, Sir N. W. Wraxal states he heard from one of Dimsdale's sons above forty years ago.—See *Wraxal's Posthumous Memoirs*, Vol. XIV., p. 199.

his majesty entire satisfaction. The proposal was, however, followed by another. "You know, Dr. Willis," said the king, "I am fond of music, do you think a concert would injure me?" The doctor bowed assent, but, at the same time, requested it might be upon a small scale. A pause succeeded, when the king recollecting himself, observed with great coolness, that any thing which affected strongly his feelings, disturbed him. "We will, therefore," said he, "postpone it for some time."

During his majesty's illness, Dr. Willis permitted him to walk in the garden. When there, regardless of every thing else but his own impulses, the king threw his hat into the air, and hurled a stick he held in his hand to an incredible distance, such was the force that animated him. His majesty then proceeded with a rapid movement to the pagoda, which he was desirous to ascend. Being thwarted in that, he became sullen and desperate, threw himself upon the earth, and so great was his strength, and so powerful his resistance, that it was three quarters of an hour before Willis and four assistants could raise him.

Upon another occasion, when his majesty was walking through the gardens at Kew, he again suddenly conceived a strong inclination to go up the pagoda. The attendants remonstrated against this desire; had but his majesty persevered, and insisted upon having it gratified. An apprehension that his majesty might conceive some rash intentions, if suffered to go up, induced the attendants to exert their strength to prevent him; and when he found that he could not over-



come them, he threw himself suddenly on the ground, declaring he would not quit the place. Fearing that the damp ground would be injurious to him, four of the attendants took him up, two holding his arms, and two his legs, and in this manner he was conveyed to his room; but in a very furious state, until Dr. Willis entered, when he was quieted instantly.

After the king's recovery, when at Kew, accompanied only by one of his equerries, while walking through the apartment of the palace, the eyes of the astonished equerry were involuntarily arrested by a *strait waistcoat* that laid on the chair. Hastily averting his view from an object which recalled images so painful, he endeavoured to conceal his embarrassment, but the king, who perceived it, said, "You need not be afraid to look at it. Perhaps it is the best friend I ever had in my life." Nearly at the same time, before the king quitted Kew to remove to Windsor, he received information that a poor-house, or hospital, was constructing at Richmond. Without previously giving notice of his design, attended only by Major Price, his equerry-in-waiting, he entered the building, which he examined with considerable minuteness and care, and expressed himself gratified that such excellent accommodations had been provided for persons labouring under the misfortune of insanity.

After the king's complete recovery, on returning to Windsor, the windows of his apartment at the lodge, which had been nailed down during the first paroxysm of his malady, in order to guard against any sudden act of frenzy, by a censurable negligence of the do-

mestics, still remained in the same state. The king, not aware of the circumstance, attempted to throw up one of the windows. Finding it fastened, the cause was explained to him. He expressed neither emotion nor irritation on the occasion.

After the king's final restoration to health, the remuneration to the physicians was finally adjusted. To Dr. Willis, sen., was given an annuity of £1500 for twenty-one years, to his son £650 per annum during life, to which were added thirty guineas per visit to Windsor, and ten guineas per visit to Kew. The same fees were allowed to each of the other physicians, which to Sir George Baker, who was longest in attendance, amounted to about 1300 guineas.

Having acquired great reputation by his restoration of George III., he was sent for to attend the queen of Portugal, whose aberration of mind he completely cured—a service for which he received £20,000.\* Dr. Willis died at Greatford, on the 5th of December, 1807, having at the time, under his care, a great number of persons of family and respectability, whom he kept in an extensive lunatic asylum he had esta-

\* Her majesty was firmly persuaded she was in hell, saying that a skilful physician may sometimes cure madness, but never reverse the decrees of fate. The queen's disorder was first occasioned by a plan contrived by some monks and waiting-ladies, for reversing the bloody decree respecting the families of D' Aveira and Tavora. This plan, state-reasons rendered abortive; and her majesty believed that she herself, as well as her royal father, was irrecoverably doomed to eternal punishment, for the cruel vengeance inflicted on those unhappy families.

blished for that purpose. He was twice married, and left five sons by his first wife, but had no issue by his second.

It is said that Willis's first patient at Lincoln, was a poor old person at that time chained in the castle, raving mad. The doctor succeeded in the cure, and gained great celebrity. After having cured the king, he was sent for to Oxford to attend Sir Charles Bourse, Bart., a distant relative, who died very rich, and left the doctor a small legacy, and the bulk of his fortune to his housekeeper. This circumstance is mentioned for the purpose of stating the surprising fact, that notwithstanding Dr. Willis's advanced age, he being then 72, he rode on horseback, in one day, 115 miles, in order to attend this patient.

One of the most successful practitioners, and able writers on this branch of medical practice, is Dr. Haslam. His whole life has been devoted to the investigation of insanity; and having been connected for so many years with a large public and private establishment for the cure of this class of diseases, he is considered an oracle on the subject, and examined in all disputed cases of any consequence. This eminent "Mad Doctor," as he is peculiarly termed, is a very original thinker. His works are considered to be the most able productions which have appeared in this or any other country, on the subject of derangement of mind, and are largely quoted and read by all who are desirous of arriving at a correct knowledge of this important and interesting branch of science.

In the case of Miss Baxter, which excited so much



interest in the year 1832, Dr. Haslam was examined, in opposition to the commission. Sir F. Pollock's cross-examination of the doctor, was one of the most humourous things we recollect ever to have seen. The lawyer, acute as he was, found a match in the physician.

*Sir F. P.*—"Is she (Miss Baxter) of sound mind?"

*Dr. H.*—"I never saw any human being who was of sound mind." "That is no answer to my question: is she of sound mind?" "I presume the Deity is of sound mind, and he alone." "Is that your answer, Sir?" "I presume the Deity alone is of sound mind." "How many years have you been mad-doctor?" "About forty." "Where did you learn that the Deity was of sound mind?" "From my own reflections during the last fourteen years, and from repeated conversations with the best divines in the country." "Is Miss B. of sound mind?" "Competently sound." "Is she capable of managing herself and her affairs?" "I do not know what affairs she has to manage." "How often have you given evidence before commissioners of lunacy, and a jury?" "I cannot tell; I don't know." "Have you any notion?" "Notion is very much like knowledge." "Have you any idea?" "An idea is a visible perception, and a direct recollection." "Have you any belief?" "I cannot say that I have any belief, for that is a direct recollection."

The mode in which the worthy doctor gave his evidence, and his odd gesticulations, convulsed the court with laughter. Dr. Haslam is now in the

decline of life. His long career has been spent in endeavouring to alleviate the sufferings of the most unfortunate class of human beings that the imagination can conceive to exist, and therefore he is entitled to the gratitude and respect of mankind. In private life he is much esteemed. He possesses a kind benevolent disposition, and is much beloved by a large circle of admiring friends and relations.

Among our mad-doctors, the names of Sutherland, Sir William Ellis, late physician to the Hanwell Lunatic Asylum,\* Burrows, Monro, Morison, Pritchard, Conolly, Sir Andrew Halliday, and Combe, stand prominently forward. These physicians are generally examined in disputed cases of insanity, and much weight is attached to their evidence. They are all either connected with public or private establishments for the cure of mental derangement; and, with the exception of Dr. Monro, have also written successfully on the subject of lunacy.

\* Sir W. Ellis has now under his care an establishment, for the cure of the insane, at Southall, Middlesex.

## CHAPTER III.

### LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEDICAL MEN.

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Prejudice against Scientific Medical Men—Difference between an Englishman's fever, and a Frenchman's—The matter-of-fact Practitioner—The Value of Principles—Neglect of Scientific Men in England—Encouragement given by the French Government—John Lock, a Medical Man—His Life and Death—Life of Sir W. Browne—Dr. Black—Dr. Young—Dr. Wollaston—Tobias Smollett.

THE paths of science are not always those of peace and prosperity to medical men. It is a singular anomaly in the constitution of medical affairs, that a man's success as a practitioner is often in an inverse ratio to his scientific attainments! This is in a great measure to be attributed to the circumstance of the public believing that scientific knowledge is incompatible with practical skill or tact, as well as to the encouragement which the great give to ignorant and shallow pretenders to a knowledge of medicine.

It may be true, to a certain extent, that he who devotes his whole time to the study of any one of the



sciences which are embraced in the study of medicine, to the exclusion of all practical investigations, is not pursuing a course best adapted to make him an acute practitioner ; yet it must not be forgotten that even in the minor details and minutiae of practice, a man of science may exhibit his superiority over the merely matter-of-fact and experienced physician or surgeon.

The practice of medicine can only be improved in proportion as it is studied as a science, upon which all medical treatment ought to be based. Such a case may exist, as a clever practical physician who is unable to describe the principles which guide him in his practice, but where is he in cases of emergency ? If any unforeseen difficulty presents itself—if any deviation occurs from what he has been accustomed to witness, he is immediately like a ship driven out of its course, or a commander without his chart or compass : he cannot refer to first principles—he is perplexed ; and being unable to account for the strange phenomenon, abandons the patient to his fate !

Medical facts, unless they be collated, and their relations to each other and to general laws deduced by a careful induction, lose much of their value, and become little better than the undigested erudition of an almanack-maker, and afford no means of judging of the truth or falsehood of a principle or rule of practice.

It is indeed this capacity for generalizing particulars and deducing inferences, that elevates man above the brute, and stamps him with the character of

rationality. The brute is furnished with senses to observe, and capacity to recollect; but this observation, and this recollection, are confined to particular facts and unconnected events. He is not led by one phenomenon to the observation of another, and thus induced “to register the two as similar appearances.”\*

In no science so much as in medicine is a reference to principles of so much consequence, for no where does the mere sequence of events, the *post hoc propter hoc* mode of argument, so often lead into error. “Without principles,” says Dr. Cullen, “deduced from analytical reasoning, experience is a useless and a blind guide.”

From the preceding observations the reader will perceive the immense superiority which the man of science has over the practitioner who has nothing to guide him, but undigested and unarranged facts. The former is seldom or never at a loss, the latter is always floundering and uncertain in his practice.†

We are not maintaining that the man of science, without experience is sufficient to constitute a good practitioner; but we do avow that in proportion as a medical man has a knowledge of the principles of medicine, so does he become qualified to grapple

\* Dr. Uwin.

† “He who follows certain arts or practical rules, without a knowledge of the science on which they are founded, is the mere artizan or the empyric; he cannot advance beyond the practice-rules which are given him, or provide for new occurrences and unforeseen difficulties.”—*Abercrombie “On the Intellectual Powers,”* p. 18.

successfully with the various alarming diseases which will demand attention in the course of his practice.

The following anecdote, related by Dr. Moore, affords a fine specimen of the inferences that are formed, and practice that is directed by mere empirical experience. "A French student of medicine lodged in the same house, in London, with a man in a fever. This poor man was continually teased by the nurse to drink, though he nauseated the insipid liquids that were presented to him. At last, when she was more importunate than usual, he whispered in her ear, "For God's sake bring me a salt herring, and I will drink as much as you please." The woman indulged him in his request; he devoured the herring, drank plentifully, underwent a copious perspiration, and recovered. The French student inserted this aphorism in his Journal: "*A salt herring cures an Englishman in his fever.*" On his return to France, he prescribed the same remedy to the first patient in fever to whom he was called. The patient died; on which the student inserted in his Journal the following caveat: "*N. B. Though a salt herring cures an Englishman, it kills a Frenchman.*"

It is lamentable to think how little encouragement is offered to medical men, in this country, to pursue with ardour their researches into the dominions of science.

In England the members of the medical profession are compelled to devote nearly the whole of their attention to the practical part of medicine. Very few men commence the study of physic with a



view of attempting to enlarge its scientific boundaries. Lucrative practice is the natural and great aim of most who enter the profession. A distinguished writer has observed, "That the profession of medicine labours under peculiar disadvantages. The very multiplication of the opportunities of knowledge, so harasses and fatigues the feelings by the *practice* of the art, as often to afford little leisure or inclination to cultivate and extend the science."

Again, it must be borne in mind that the arts which, from the constitution of society, are deemed necessary for getting into practice, are totally at variance with the spirit of inquiry which would tend to promote the interests of medicine; whilst those who disdain these arts have no alternative, but must either enrol themselves in the already over-stocked ranks of medical teachers, or abandon the list altogether. This was the case with the late Dr. Wollaston, whose splendid talents were lost to medicine, because he could find no abiding place in it, suited to the peculiarities of his genius, disposition, and circumstances. He wanted bread in early life, and would gladly have entered upon the regular career of his profession, could he have done so by fair and honourable, straight-forward, and unbending methods; but he met with repeated disappointments, which filled him with disgust, and induced him to form an unalterable resolution never to prescribe more. His attention was thenceforth turned wholly to natural science, forsaking what might then have been sup-

posed a far more likely road to wealth, than that in which he amassed an ample fortune; nor was the case very different with the late Dr. Young, the most profound scholar and philosopher of the age in which we live. It is known that with all his indefatigable industry and zeal in the pursuit of knowledge, his means resulting from professional practice and other sources, did not suffice him; much of his valuable time was wasted in anonymous authorship; and it was not until within the last ten years of his life that he enjoyed anything like a competence, and that in the scanty emoluments afforded him by government as one of the secretaries of the Royal Society, and the then existing board of longitude.\*

Such being the state of things in this country, we need not be surprised at Mr. Herschel's question, when speaking of the progress made in the science of chemistry by English philosophers: "Who can tell us here," says he, "any thing about the sulpho-salts? or of the laws of isomorphism? Who among

\* In the year 1714, Parliament offered a reward of £20,000 for the discovery of a method for finding the longitude within half a degree. Soon afterwards, Harrison made a chronometer for this purpose, which varied only *two minutes in four months*, and received the reward! Why do not the government hold out such an inducement for the discovery of a remedy for hydrophobia, consumption, and other diseases considered, according to our present amount of knowledge, as incurable? Is the preservation of human health and the prolongation of life, too insignificant a subject for the ministers of the crown to attend to?

us has verified Thenard's experiments on the oxygenated acids; or Oersted's and Bergelius's on the radicals of the earth; or Balard's and Serullas' on the combinations of brome?"\*

In England, if a man obtains eminence on account of a scientific discovery, or in consequence of his great practical skill, he may be honoured with knighthood; and if he has great interest at court, he may succeed in being made a baronet; but these honours (?) come when he is least in want of them. A man who has already obtained eminence in his profession stands in but little need of an empty-sounding title, which at the most can only please his vanity, without adding one iota to his fame and reputation.

They manage these things better in France. In that country the sciences and scientific men are encouraged and made comfortable: liberal allowance is provided for every member of the academies; and it is calculated that not less than one hundred thousand pounds is annually expended in pensions to men of science, of whose services, in various ways, ministers avail themselves. In France, titles of nobility and crowns of honour and merit are abundantly bestowed, and with the happiest effect. The late Dupuytren had the dignity of baron conferred upon him; and the same honour was paid to Larrey. The present king conferred the legion of honour upon Biett, Lallemand, Andral, and Chomel; thus demonstrating

\* Mr. Herschel.



at once his respect for the science, and the professors of medicine.\*

JOHN LOCKE was originally intended for the profession of physic. He took a Bachelor's degree in medicine, in February 6, 1674, and was actually practising at Oxford, when accident brought him acquainted with Lord Ashley, afterwards Earl of Shaftesbury and Lord Chancellor. His lordship being advised to drink the mineral waters at Acton, for an abscess in his breast, wrote to Dr. Thomas, a physician at Oxford, to procure a quantity of those waters to be ready at his coming there. Dr. Thomas being called away by other business, easily prevailed with his friend Locke to undertake the affair, who happening to employ a person who disappointed him, he was obliged to wait on his lordship to apologize. Lord Ashley, with his usual politeness, received him with great civility, and was satisfied with his apology; and being much pleased with his conversation, detained him to supper, and engaged him to dinner the next day, and even to drink the waters, as he was desirous of enjoying his company. Lord Ashley not finding much benefit from the waters, Locke opened the abscess in his breast, and, it is said, saved his lordship's life. After this Lord Ashley had a high opinion of Locke's skill in physic; he, however, advised him to turn his thoughts another way, and would

\* *Vide* "The London Medical Gazette," Vol. VII. p. 277, for an excellent paper on this subject, to which we have been much indebted.

not allow him to practice physic out of his house, except among some of his particular friends. He urged Locke to apply himself to the study of political subjects, both ecclesiastical and civil.

That Locke not only studied medicine, but was also for a period engaged in the practice of his profession, appears also evident from the following extracts of letters to Sir Hans Sloane. One letter says, "It is very kindly and charitably done of you to send me some news, from the commonwealth of letters, into a place where I seldom meet with any thing beyond the observation of a scabby sheep, or a lame horse. The great spleen you found in the woman you opened, seems to be owing, as you rightly judged, to the polypi which swelled the sanguinary vessels, since the other parts of the spleen were every way right. This is an observation well worth recording and publishing, and may give great light about tumours in the abdomen, which are not always to be attributed to aposthumes, or collections of peccant humours. Polypuses in the blood-vessels are found so frequently, that I think they would deserve to be treated as a particular disease, if there were collections enough of this history, and symptoms to build any theory on, and lay a foundation for their cure. Pray when you do me the favour to write to me again, do not forget to set down the diameter of the biggest vessels you found in that spleen ; what part of an inch it was."

In another letter Locke observes—

"Now I am writing, give me leave to say one word more, though on a subject very different. The story

I have heard of the performance of a man, now in London, would be beyond belief, were there not so many witnesses to it. I think they deserve to be communicated to the present age, and recorded to posterity; and, therefore, I think you cannot omit to give him a place in your transactions; his age, country, stature, bigness, make, weight, and then the several proofs he has given of his strength, which may be a subject of speculation and inquiry to the philosophical world.”\*

Again he writes with considerable anxiety for advice:

“Dear Sir,—I have a patient here sick of the fever at this season; it seems not violent; but I am told ’tis a sort that is not easily got off; I desire to know of you what your fevers in town are, and what methods you find most successful in them. I shall be obliged by your favour, if you will give me a word or two by to-morrow’s post, and direct it to me, to be left at Mr. Harrison’s, in the Crown, at Harlow.

“I am, Sir,

“Your most humble servant,

“J. LOCKE.”

With reference to Locke’s medical pursuits, his most recent biographer and relative, Lord King, observes, “Whether Locke had, at any time, serious thoughts of engaging in any profession, is uncertain; his inclinations led him strongly to the study of medicine, which seems very much to have occupied his thoughts, as appears from the frequent memoranda of

\* Bibl. Sloan. 4052.



curious cases that are to be found in his diary; and from the correspondence of his friends, who occasionally consulted him to a very late period, and from the number of medical books he collected. The praise which Sydenham, the greatest authority of his time, bestows on the medical skill of Locke, affords a brilliant proof of the high estimation which his acquirements in the science of medicine, his penetrating judgment, as well as his many private virtues, procured from all who knew him. In the dedication prefixed to Dr. Sydenham's *Observations on the History and Cure of Acute Diseases*, 1676, he boasts of the approbation bestowed on his method by Mr. Locke, who, to borrow Sydenham's own words, "had examined it at the bottom, and who, if we consider his genius and penetration, and exact judgment, has scarce any superior, and few equals now living."\*

Having established our claim to consider the celebrated John Locke a member of the medical profession, we must not omit to give our readers the particulars connected with his death, which we extract from Lord King's life of the great philosopher, considering it the best authority to which we can refer. Lord King observes:—"During the last four years of his life, encreasing infirmities confined him to the retirement he had chosen at Oates, near High Laver, in Essex; and, although labouring under an incurable disease, he was cheerful to the last; constantly interested in the welfare of his friends, and, at the same time,

\* *Life of Locke*, by Lord King, vol. I. p. 16.

perfectly resigned to his own fate. His literary occupation at that time was the study of, and commentary on, Saint Paul's Epistles, published amongst his posthumous works.

In October, 1704, Locke's disorder greatly increased: on the twenty-seventh of that month, Lady Masham, not finding him in his study, as usual, went to his bed-side, when he told her that the fatigue of getting up the day before had been too much for his strength, and that he never expected again to rise from his bed. He said that he had now finished his career in this world, and that, in all probability he should not outlive the night, certainly not be able to survive beyond the next day or two.

After taking some refreshment, he said to those present, that he wished them much happiness after he was gone. To Lady Masham, who remained with him, he said, that he thanked God he had passed a happy life, but that now he found that all was vanity, and exhorted her to consider this world only as a preparation for a better state hereafter. He would not suffer her to sit up with him, saying, that perhaps he might be able to sleep, but, if any change should happen, he would send for her. Having no sleep, he was taken out of bed, and carried into his study, where he slept for some time in his chair. After waking, he desired to be dressed, and then heard Lady Masham read the psalms, apparently with great attention, until, perceiving his end draw near, he expired a few minutes afterwards, about three o'clock in the afternoon of the twenty-eighth of October, in his seventy-third year."

Thus departed this great and justly eminent philosopher, one of the greatest men England ever produced. "He was," says Le Clerc, "a profound philosopher, and a man fit for the most important affairs. He knew something of everything that can be useful to mankind. He was the most faithful follower, or, indeed, slave of truth, which he never abandoned on any account, and which he loved."

The illustrious author of the "*Religio Medici*," or the "Religion of a Physician," deserves a place amongst our eminent literary and scientific medical men. SIR THOMAS BROWNE was not a *curious thinker*, says a writer in a popular journal of the day,\* but the philosopher and the humourist were strangely blended in his character. Of his domestic manners and relations little is known; but we may conjecture, from various passages in his works, that the same melancholy enthusiasm and eternal speculation which appear in them, tinged also, with sad and solemn colours, his daily habits. In all likelihood, he was an absent and solitary man, extracting the good of serious contemplation from all objects indifferently, and busied in perpetual abstractions. He was at once Sir Roger de Coverley, directing the psalmody of the village church, and the melancholy humourist of Milton,—

"Whose lamp at midnight hour  
Is seen on some high lonely tower,

\* Athenæum for 1829.



Where he might oft outwatch the bear  
 With thrice great Hermes, or unsphere  
 The spirit of Plato, to unfold  
 What worlds, or what vast regions, hold  
 The immortal mind that hath forsook  
 Her mansion in this fleshly nook," &c.

It was during Sir Thomas Browne's residence at Shipden Hall, near Halifax, that he composed his celebrated work. He here had leisure to improve, by reviewing and preparing some memento of the events of his past life. The *Religio Medici* may be regarded as the result of such retrospect; for, though not pretending to the character of a narrative, it makes frequent allusion to incidents and conversations which had occurred in the course of his travels, and exhibits to us the impression made on him by the imposing ceremonies of the Romish Church, which he had witnessed abroad.

After the publication of his work, Browne was induced to establish himself at Norwich, where, it is said, he had considerable practice. In 1637, he was incorporated Doctor of Physic in Oxford. In 1641 he married Mrs. Mileham, of a good family in Norfolk. This drew upon him the raillery of contemporary wits, particularly as Browne had stated, "that the whole world was made for man, but only the twelfth part of man for woman;" and, that "man is the whole world, but woman only the rib or crooked part of man."

DR. JOSEPH BLACK, the immortal discoverer of latent heat, was born at Bordeaux in the year 1728,

where his father was a wine merchant. His parents sent him first to Belfast, and afterwards to Glasgow, where Dr. Cullen was Professor of Medicine, one of whose pupils he became. In 1754 he took the degree of M.D. at Edinburgh, and, in 1756 succeeded Dr. Cullen as Professor of Medicine, and Lecturer on Chemistry. In 1757 he gave to the world his celebrated discovery of latent heat, by means of which he explained the doctrines of fluidity, and evaporation, the expansion of bodies, and other interesting phenomena. The reputation which he acquired from this and other discoveries was so great, that he was called on to succeed Dr. Cullen at Edinburgh, where he established his name as one of the first teachers of chemistry in Europe. His discoveries were made known principally in his lectures to his pupils, many of whom took complete copies of them; and, satisfied with this, he rarely took any other means of securing his claim to them. Towards the latter part of his life, he suffered so much in his health as to be obliged to give up lecturing. Dr. Robinson says, "the sedentary life to which study confined him, was manifestly hurtful; and he never allowed himself to indulge in any intense thinking or puzzling research, without finding his complaints sensibly increase."

His death, which took place in 1799, was unusually calm; he was sitting at table, taking his frugal meal of bread, with a few prunes, and milk and water. His servant had left the room; but, having some misgivings, he returned and discovered his master dead, with the cup resting on his knees. He was elected

one of the eight foreign members of the Academy of Sciences at Paris; and member of the Imperial Academy at Petersburg; to neither of which, however, he ever sent any papers.

Among the eminently scientific physicians must be placed the name of the illustrious Dr. THOMAS YOUNG. He was nearly related to the celebrated London physician Dr. Richard Brocklesby, who was most anxious that he should settle in practice. Young was a rarely gifted and extraordinary man. His mind was so happily constituted, as to be equally fitted for engaging in any pursuit, or mastering any given branch of knowledge. Among geometers and natural philosophers, Dr. Young took a very elevated rank. His knowledge was not of a useless or abstract nature; his power of practically applying science to the useful arts, and the business of life, rendered his assistance indispensable to the government, whenever it was necessary to obtain accurate information respecting the conduct and management of scientific establishments. Dr. Young's treatise on optics, and his lectures on natural philosophy, together with a multitude of papers on the Transactions of the Royal Society, afford ample evidence of the great proficiency which he had attained, both in the pure and mixed mathematics. He was as eminent for his acquirements as a scholar, as for his attainments as a man of science. He was the intimate friend of Porson, who acknowledged Dr. Young to be a first-rate Grecian. During the period he visited Paris, as the medical attendant of the Duke of Richmond and



Lord George Lennox, he was elected a member of the National Institute; an honour never conferred except on men highly distinguished for their literary and scientific acquirements. He was also appointed Lecturer at the Royal Institution; and, in 1810, physician to St. George's Hospital. Not succeeding in obtaining any large amount of practice in London, Dr. Young was in the habit of passing his summers at Worthing, with the view to general practice in his profession. His success was not, however, proportionate to his merit. He was constantly employed in contributing to the pages of the most able and scientific journals of the day. His review of Adelung's *Mithridates*, which appeared in the "Quarterly Review," is considered a master-piece. The article "Egypt," in the supplement to the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, was also from the pen of this eminent physician: it has been pronounced to be the most extraordinary effort of scholarship that modern times can boast: it was in this communication that he exhibited a digest of those discoveries in Egyptian Literature, which have immortalized his name, and added a newly-explored region to the vast dominions of science. In the multitude of vain attempts which, in the course of nearly two thousand years, had been made to decipher the inscriptions which cover the monuments, or are contained in the papyri found in the mummies of the ancient Egyptians, extravagance had followed extravagance, and absurdity absurdity, until the subject had at length been abandoned as utterly hopeless and unattainable. At

length, in 1814, Dr. Young gave his mind to the subject, and availing himself of some hints thrown out by De Sacy and Akerbhad—hints which, had they known how to pursue them, might have enabled those ingenious persons to anticipate the discovery—he soon succeeded in reading the whole of the demotic or enchorial part of the inscription, and immediately published his translation in the *Museum Criticum* of Cambridge. And, having achieved this, the most difficult part of his task, the remainder was easy; for the process or method he employed in reading off the enchorial was, from its very nature, equally applicable to the hieroglyphical branch of the inscription, which he accordingly deciphered and published. The results thus obtained were exceedingly curious; for it was proved, beyond the possibility of a doubt, that the proper names in this inscription were spelled alphabetically; that from these an alphabet might be formed; that in the demotic as well as in the hieroglyphic branch, particular groups of characters represented particular words; that these groups were susceptible of decomposition; and that the system of writing used among the ancient Egyptians was not simple and uniform, but complete and composite; or, in other words, made up of characters some of which were symbolically, others mimetically, and a third class upon an arbitrary principle, which it was then found impossible to explain. The monuments of Philæ, the autographs of Mr. Grey, and a variety of other antiquities which were brought to this country, enabled Dr. Young to test the accuracy of his dis-



covery, as well as to modify some of the conclusions at which he had previously arrived; and the result of all his investigations was embodied in the celebrated article on Egypt to which we have made allusion.

This justly eminent man died on the 10th of May, 1829, at the age of fifty-five.

The intimate connexion subsisting between the art of medicine and many of the most useful sciences, has given a bias to the minds of its professors, more in favour of philosophical than of lighter and more elegant learning, which, contributing only to the cultivation of imagination, and to the embellishment of language, not only has nothing in common with the severe matter-of-fact details of scientific investigation, but might, were it not corrected by other studies, have so injurious an effect upon the mind, as to unfit it for that patient research, and minute enquiry, which must be exercised in searching for and removing the subtle causes of disease.

Hence, in the annals of medicine we see more philosophers than poets: and, taken as a body, we find a greater amount of scientific knowledge in the medical profession, than perhaps in all other professions and classes put together. Such being the tendency of medical studies, we are prepared to expect that some, more given to philosophical enquiry, or of a higher genius than the rest, would select one branch of it in preference to all others, and pursuing it even to the neglect of their particular studies, of which it has to be but the ally and ornament. Of those who have become distinguished among chemical philosophers,



DR. WILLIAM HYDE WOLLASTON occupies a most honourable position. Dr. Wollaston was educated at Caius College, Cambridge, when, according to the biographical account contained in the Medical Gazette, he was the senior wrangler of his year. Upon reference to the Cambridge calendar, however, we find no mention of Dr. Wallcott or Wollaston among the wranglers, or even the lower honour-men of the University; and the error has arisen from mistaking F. F. Wollaston of Sidney, the late Archdeacon of Essex, who was senior wrangler in the year 1783, for the subject of our memoir.

Whatever may have been the success of his academical examination in the senate-house, it is certain that he must have been a distinguished scholar of his year, as we find him elected to a fellowship in his College, which he held until his death in the year 1828.

Having selected medicine as the object of his particular study, he proceeded, in due course, Bachelor of Physic, in the year 1787, and Doctor of Physic in 1793.

Success, however, in the professors of medicine, is not at all times to be commanded, even by men of the highest attainment. Quackery and ignorance will thrive, while knowledge and honesty starve. And Dr. Wollaston, with all his cultivation of mind, and high professional advancement, failed to obtain that patronage from the public which he had a greater right to expect than many of his more successful contemporaries—being unable to stoop to those

little arts of meanness and flattery, which sometimes are more successful in establishing a practice than learning and knowledge. Dr. Wollaston retired from the competition in disgust; and for the happiness of man, and interest of science, resolved never again to write a prescription, even for his father, but to devote the remainder of his life to the pursuit of chemical philosophy.

Anecdotes are told respecting the resolute manner in which he uniformly resisted the intrusion of either friend or stranger into his workshop; among others, it is related, that a gentleman of his acquaintance having been left by his servant to ramble from one room to another, till he should be ready to see him, penetrated into the laboratory. The doctor, on coming in, discovered the intrusion; but not suffering himself to express all he felt on the occasion, took his friend by the arm, and, having led him to the most sacred spot in the room, said, "Mr. P. do you see that furnace?" "I do." "Then make a profound bow to it, for this is the first, and will be the last time of your seeing it."

He was, as it is commonly reported, fond of acquiring wealth, and had his desire gratified by finding most of his scientific experiments as fruitful to him in money, as they were in reputation.

But if the following story be true, and there is every reason to believe it so, it proves how distinct a thing is the caution or prudence which acquires wealth from the iron-hearted parsimony which buries it. Having been applied to by a gentleman, who was in-

volved in unexpected difficulties, to procure him some government situation, his reply was, "I have lived to sixty, without asking a single favour from men in office; and it is not, after that age, that I shall be induced to do it, even were it to serve a brother; if the inclosed can be of use to you in your present difficulties, pray accept it, for it is much at your service." The enclosed was a cheque for £10,000!

Wollaston's fortune was considerable, amounting to £50,000, independently of an estate which he possessed in Sussex, and all of which was amassed by his own application and abilities. His most important discovery, the malleability of platinum, by a purifying instead of an allowing process, produced him, in the long run, about £30,000.

Dr. Wollaston discovered *Palladium* in 1803, *Rhodium* in 1804. He also invented the *Goniometer* for measuring the angles of crystals by reflection. The *Camera Lucida*, for taking views of places, was also his invention.

A short time before his death, he gave a fresh proof of his love of science, and of the interest he felt for its advancement. He wrote a letter to the Secretary of the Royal Society; informing him that he had that day invested, in the name of the Royal Society stock, to the amount of £100, the interest of which he wished to be employed in the encouragement of experiments in natural philosophy.

When he was nearly in the last agonies of death, a circumstance occurred, which shows that he still pre-



served his faculties, and gives an interesting proof of the power of his mind over physical suffering. One of his friends having observed, loud enough for him to hear, that he was not at the time conscious of what was passing around him, he immediately made a sign for a pencil and paper, which were given him; he then wrote down some figures, and after casting up the sum returned them. The amount was right.

Dr. Wollaston died the 22nd of December, 1828.

DR. TOBIAS SMOLLETT, who was born in 1721, was the second son of Archibald Smollett, Esq. He has celebrated the place of his birth, in Humphrey Clinker, in the following words: "Every thing here is romantic beyond imagination. This country is justly styled the Arcadia of Scotland: I do not doubt but it may vie with Arcadia, in every thing but climate. I am sure it excels it in verdure, wood, and water." At a suitable age he was placed with the learned Mr. John Love, master of the Dumbarton Grammar School, from whence he was removed to Glasgow, for the purpose of finishing his education. Young Smollet was desirous of entering the army, a destination in life to which his friends would by no means agree, who bound him apprentice to an eminent surgeon of the name of Gordon. This gentleman has given us the opinion which he entertained of his pupil while he was serving his time, in the expressive sentence which he adressed to some of his neighbours who were making remarks, not very much to his pupil's credit, on the score of diligence and propriety; "It may be all very true," said he; "but give me,

before them all, my own bubbly-nosed callant, with the stane in his pouch." One of the few stories which are preserved of his practical jests is thus recorded by Dr. Moore: "On a winter evening," says the doctor, "when the streets were covered with snow, Smollett happened to be engaged in a snow-ball fight with a few boys of his own age. Among his associates was the apprentice of that surgeon who is supposed to have been delineated under the name of Crab, in "Roderick Random." He entered his shop while his apprentice was in the heat of the engagement. On the return of the latter, the master remonstrated severely with him for his negligence in quitting the shop: the youth excused himself by saying, that while he was employed in making up a prescription, a fellow had hit him with a snow-ball; and that he had been in pursuit of the delinquent. 'A mighty probable story, truly,' said the master, in an ironical tone; 'I wonder how long I should stand here,' added he, 'before it would enter any mortal's head to throw a snow-ball at me.' And while he was holding his head erect, with a most scornful air, he received a severe blow in the face with a snow-ball. Smollett, who stood concealed behind the pillar at the shop door, had heard the dialogue; and perceiving that his companion was puzzled for an answer, he extricated him by a repartee equally smart and *à propos*."

When Smollett was eighteen years of age, he lost his grandfather, and there being no provision made for him, and having no prospect of support in his native

country, he left it for the purpose of trying his fortune in London, where he arrived at nineteen years of age, having brought with him the "Regicide," a tragedy written during the intervals of his studies. He received some encouragement from Lord Lyttleton and Garrick; but whether his expectations were raised too high, or their performances did not equal their promises—he was disappointed, and he revenged himself of them in his work under fictitious names. "His tragedy," he says, alluding to Lord Lyttleton, "was taken into the protection of one of those little fellows who are sometimes called great men, and, like other orphans neglected accordingly."

He soon found himself in such circumstances as obliged him to accept the situation of surgeon's mate on board a man of war, the delights of which situation he has delineated with unrivalled excellence in "Roderick Random." It was during this service that he acquired that stock of knowledge of a sea life, that he afterwards turned to so good an account. Disgusted with the service, he left it; and after spending some time in Jamaica, he returned to England in 1746. He now settled in London, and endeavoured to get into practice; but he was not successful, and found that he must have recourse to something besides his practice to obtain a livelihood. Accordingly it was at this time he commenced that series of novels which made him so justly eminent. **Roderick Random** brought him into instant notice; the different characters therein represented were assigned to various living persons. About this time he married



Miss Lascelles, a beautiful and intelligent woman, whom he had seen in the West Indies, expecting to receive £3000 with her. In this, however, he was disappointed, and again was thrown upon his own resources.

In 1750 he went to Paris, where he employed himself chiefly in composing "Peregrine Pickle," which appeared in the following year.

We have the following account from Dr. Moore, of the occasion of Smollett's going to see his mother: "On Smollett's arrival, he was introduced to his mother, with the connivance of Mr. Telfer, as a gentleman from the West Indies, who was intimately acquainted with her son. The better to support his assumed character, he endeavoured to preserve a serious countenance, approaching to a frown; but, while his mother's eyes were rivetted on his countenance, he could not refrain from smiling: she immediately sprung from her chair, and throwing her arms around his neck, exclaimed, 'Ah, my son! my son! I have found you at last!' She afterwards told him, that if he had kept his austere look, and continued to *gloom*, he might have escaped detection some time longer; 'but your old roguish smiles,' added she, 'betrayed you at once.'"

There is an account, by Mr. Graham, of the manner in which Smollett wrote his short poem, called the "Tears of Caledonia." "Some gentlemen having met at a tavern," says Mr. Graham, "were amusing themselves before supper with a game of cards; while Smollett, not choosing to play, sat down

to write. One of the company, who also was nominated by him one of his trustees, observing his earnestness, and supposing he was writing verses, asked him if it were not so. He accordingly read them the first sketch of his "Tears of Scotland," consisting only of six stanzas; and on their remarking that the termination of the poem, being too strongly expressed, might give offence to persons whose political opinions were different, he sat down, without reply, and, with great indignation, subjoined the concluding stanza:—

“ While the warm blood bedews my veins,  
 And unimpair'd remembrance reigns,  
 Resentment of my country's fate  
 Within my filial breast shall beat.  
 Yes, spite of time, insulting foe,  
 My sympathising verse shall flow.  
 Mourn, hapless Caledonia, mourn,  
 Thy banish'd peace, thy laurels torn !”

Smollett became editor of the "Critical Review," which involved him in many unlucky squabbles; the most unfortunate of which was that with Admiral Knowles, of whom Smollett said, "He is an Admiral without conduct, an engineer without knowledge, an officer without resolution, and a man without veracity." The admiral immediately prosecuted the printer, stating at the same time that he merely wanted the name of the writer, from whom, if a gentleman, he should demand personal satisfaction. When judgment was about to be pronounced, Smollett came forward and acknowledged having written

the review, whereupon Admiral Knowles obtained judgment against him for a fine of £100 and three months' imprisonment, which Smollett had to undergo.

Being recommended to go abroad for change of air, he procured, through his friend Dr. Armstrong, a house at a village near Leghorn, where he wrote his last work, "Humphrey Clinker." After this was published, he survived till the autumn, and died on the 21st October, 1771, aged 51.



## CHAPTER IV.

### MEDICAL EMIGRATION.

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Lord North, Dr. R., and the King—Overstocked condition of the Profession—Causes of it—Medical Aristocracy—Openings at New Orleans—United States of America—Back Settlements—Cincinnati—South Australia—Brazil—How to get connected with Mining Companies—Pay of Medical Men—Qualifications necessary—Advantages of Settling in that Country—The West Indies.

WHEN Lord North introduced Dr. R— to George the IV., his majesty made many enquiries respecting the medical professors of Edinburgh, and the state of the college, of which the doctor was principal. A subject being thus mentioned which was uppermost in his mind, he expatiated at large, with gravity and decorum, on the merits of the Edinburgh college, enumerating the various branches of learning which were taught in it,—dwelling on the number of students that flocked to it from all quarters of the globe. In reply to his majesty's particular en-

quiries concerning it, as a school of medicine, he observed, that no college could boast of conferring the degree of physic on so many gentlemen, as that of Edinburgh; for it annually sent out more than *forty physicians!* besides a vast number who exercised the lower functions of the faculty, as surgeons apothecaries, &c. An expression of astonishment appeared on the face of the king, when, interrupting the doctor in his narration, he, with uplifted hands exclaimed, “Heaven have mercy on my poor subjects!”

We can hardly anticipate the exclamation of our gracious Queen, were she to visit many of the schools now established in the metropolis, for the education of medical practitioners: if she did not offer up a prayer for the safety of those over whom she has been called to reign, she would certainly be curious to know how so many young doctors could find employment in her dominions.

At a time when everybody is complaining of a redundancy of medical population, when we hear lamentations from one, and sighs from another, on the present crowded state of the profession, it becomes a matter of importance and interest to enquire how far this evil, assuming its existence, admits of being removed by the adoption of the principle of emigration.

That the medical profession is overstocked there cannot be a doubt; and that many men, highly and expensively educated, are allowed to pine, and droop, for want of public patronage, is equally self-evident.

It is useless to stop to investigate the causes of the evil—they have been in operation for a considerable time, and continue to exercise their pernicious influence. The standard of medical education has been fixed too low. Every apothecary's and chemist's assistant has had facilities for entering the profession, which ought never to have been afforded; and in this way the medical ranks have been crowded with recruits; and men, who, if they had been brought up to some honest trade, would have earned a decent livelihood, are compelled, as members of a learned profession to starve for want of patients. Every tradesman who has been able to establish himself in business, and who has laid by a few thousand pounds, must now have a son a doctor. This seems to be the mania of the present age; but how little do they calculate the difficulties and vexations with which the scion of their house will have to contend!

In one large school in the metropolis, numbering some hundreds of pupils, the principal told us that one hundred and fifty of the students were the sons of tradesmen!

We do not object to a man, who has advanced himself in life, and acquired opulence by the means of trade, bringing up a favorite son to the profession of physic; but we do not think they would adopt this practice if they were made acquainted with the real state of the profession, and had some notion of the long and dreary journey which most men entering it have to take, before their efforts to establish themselves in anything like decent practice are



crowned with success. What is the effect of this crowded condition of the profession? When a man has passed through the ordeal of his examination, unless he has capital to commence business with, he is compelled to seek an assistant's situation; to live with some hard taskmaker, and to do the drudgery of his business, for a paltry pittance of thirty pounds a-year!

What a pleasing and gratifying prospect! The question for our consideration is, how is this evil to be remedied? Is there any course, which, if adopted, would rid the profession of its superabundant members, and yet, give each a certain amount of employment?

The Army, the Navy, and the East India Company's service take off a certain number, and yet the evil is not obviated. The only course, then, which occurs to us to suggest, is that of emigration.

We are not Malthusians,—we do not give in our adherence to his cold and speculative philosophy—we believe that the world is wide enough for us all, and that where Providence has provided a population, means of subsistence are also to be obtained. But in the present defective constitution of medical society, where the aristocratic spirit has been allowed too long to usurp and monopolize whatever is worth seeking and having in the profession, something must be done to remove the many grievances of which medical men have just reasons to complain.

We do not wish to join in the senseless and factious cry against men who have, by their talents and appli-

cation, placed themselves in a proud and elevated position as members of the medical community. We do not war with men, but with *principles*. It is of the *system*, and not those who are forced by accidental circumstances into connexion with it, that we complain. But we look for brighter days. The College of Physicians has nobly set the example, and that we believe at the suggestion of the genius who presides over its destinies. It is but right that the first medical corporation in the land should take the lead in the work of conservative reformation; and it is hoped that the other institutions will follow in her wake.

It is now our duty to point out to medical men, who find a difficulty in establishing themselves in practice in this country, those parts of the world where facilities exist for the settlement of members of the medical profession. Having been much abroad, we can speak on some points from personal observation. Our other information may strictly be relied upon, as we have been extremely careful in collecting the most authentic particulars of the countries to which allusion is made.

We have been informed, by a gentleman who has resided for a considerable length of time at NEW ORLEANS, and who is thoroughly acquainted with every particular connected with that city, that the most desirable openings exist there for medical men, if they can make up their minds to brave the sickly season, when the greater portion of the inhabitants take flight. New Orleans is situated on the eastern bank of the

Mississippi, about one hundred miles from the mouth of the river, on ground perfectly flat. The whole city is built in the form of a parallelogram, composed of six complete squares, with suburbs, called faubourgs, which are rapidly encreasing: the population amounts to fifty thousand persons.

New Orleans is considered to be the great commercial capital of the Mississippi valley. As a commercial city its position is unrivalled. At a proper distance from the Gulf of Mexico—on the banks of a stream which may be said to water a world—but a little distance from Lake Pouchartrain, and connected with it by a navigable canal—the immense alluvium contiguous to it—penetrated in all directions by *bayous* (that is, sluggish creeks or rivers) formed by nature, or canals costing little more trouble in the making than ditches—steam-boats visiting it from fifty different shores—possessing the immediate agriculture of its own state, the richest in America, and as rich as any in the world, with the continually increasing agriculture of the Upper Country,—its position far surpasses that of New York itself.

It has one dreary drawback—the insalubrity of its situation. Could the immense swamps between it and the bluffs (the high grounds) be drained, and the improvements commenced in the city be completed; in short, could the atmosphere become a dry one, it would soon leave the greatest cities of the union behind.

When the dog-star rises upon its sky, the yellow fever is but too sure to come in its train. Notwith-



standing the annual, or, at least, the biennial visits of this pestilence—although its besom sweeps off multitudes of unacclimated poor, and compels the rich to fly—notwithstanding, the terror that is everywhere associated with the name of the city—it is rapidly advancing in population.

English medical men have accumulated considerable wealth in this city. During the sickly season a great portion of the faculty leave, and those who remain behind have as much business as they can possibly attend to: they are rewarded very handsomely, and take a high rank in society. A medical man going to New Orleans, if he should feel indisposed to settle in the city, may easily obtain the situation of surgeon to a plantation, as good surgeons are much wanted to act in that capacity. A liberal salary is allowed, with a house and servants, free of all charge. A medical man may easily obtain a free passage to New Orleans, if he can obtain the interest of a mercantile house. If a free passage be not granted as a compensation for medical services, some reduction is made in the amount of money demanded. A knowledge of the French language would be a great recommendation to medical men intending to settle at New Orleans.

With reference to the United States, we cannot say much in its favour. An English medical man may succeed in obtaining practice in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, &c., but he will have much opposition and many difficulties to encounter. There exists there a prejudice against English physicians which

cannot easily be overcome. Whatever degree of eminence an English medical man may have attained, a preference is always given to members of the American faculty. In that country no distinction is made between surgeons and physicians—all are called “doctors,” and practice medicine and surgery indiscriminately.

Valentine Mott, the great American surgeon, is likewise a physician, although his time, previous to his settling on the continent of France, was almost exclusively occupied in the practice of surgery. Medical men are not generally paid by fees as they are in this country. Bills for medicine, and medical advice, are sent in annually ; and we know, from personal experience, that often no little difficulty exists in obtaining a settlement of these accounts. An English medical man would obtain a better chance of establishing himself professionally, by “Locating,” to use an American phrase, in the back parts of the country. There are many small towns and villages, beautifully situated, where good surgeons, and well-educated medical men, are much needed, and where they would certainly establish themselves in practice. They must not, however, expect to accumulate wealth. They will be hard worked, and liberally remunerated, but not in money. One patient will send his doctor a good cart-load of potatoes, another some sheep, others will send him wood ; so that he never need be in want of the necessaries of life. It is a common practice for the medical practitioner to send these to market, and, in this way turn them into hard cash. Of course he will

be paid a certain amount of money, but he will receive the greater portion of his demands in the manner mentioned. It is usual for a medical man to farm a certain portion of land; if he does so, it will be a great assistance to him; and, if he settles in the neighbourhood of a canal or railroad going through a market town, he may succeed, in a few years, in earning a comfortable livelihood. In the western parts of America many excellent openings are to be found for the settlement of members of the medical profession. We refer particularly to Cincinnati, one of the most flourishing cities in that part of the world. Many English medical men have established themselves there, and have done very well. Well-educated surgeons and anatomists are certain of finding employment. A large medical school has been formed at Cincinnati, and excellent medical professorships are to be obtained, provided the candidates can bring testimonials of having received a good general and medical education.

A fine range of wooded hills surrounds Cincinnati. On the one side, towards the Ohio, to which the descent is rather steep, more beautifully-shaped hills cannot be conceived. The view from them is picturesque. The town itself is handsomely built. The population, in 1830, was twenty-eight thousand. "I have hardly ever seen," says Mr. Stuart, "a finer town of its extent, both in point of appearance and situation. The river, and trees about it, are magnificent; and, being in the middle of a rich country, provisions are as cheap as any where in America. The plain upon



which Cincinnati is situated occupies about four square miles. The height of the rising ground above the alluvial plain is about fifty feet. The population is of a mixed nature, composed of emigrants from all States in the Union, and from most of the countries of Europe."

Provisions are very cheap. A turkey is to be had for thirteen pence ; the same sum is paid for a roasting pig ; beef is three halfpence, and pork one penny a pound.

Medical men of small capital, who would not object to farming land, might emigrate with great advantage to South Australia. We have no doubt, that in the course of time, there will be an excellent field for professional practice in this newly-colonized and flourishing country ; but at present there is little inducement held out to professional men, who are unable or indisposed to purchase land, and to turn their attention to the rearing of sheep. We have no doubt but that large fortunes are to be made in South Australia. Land which was originally sold at one pound per acre, is now fetching over a hundred, so much has it increased in value.

The climate is represented to be lovely in the extreme, and the appearance of the country picturesque and beautiful ; but we must be cautious in allowing our judgments to be carried away by the exaggerated descriptions of this modern paradise, as it has been termed. One settler writes home to his friends that the climate is very healthy and salubrious, and he adds, doctors need not come here. This may be the case, yet the doctors may find plenty of occupation.

We cannot believe that the good people of Adelaide are excluded from the penalty of Adam's transgression. Wherever the human race is to be found, there you will have disease, and its frequent consequence, death. This, therefore, need not deter medical men, disposed to "seek in change of scene, the charms that others see," from visiting South Australia. The population is rapidly increasing. In New South Wales the medical profession is in a flourishing condition. One authority states, "that medical men who are well informed on other subjects besides those immediately bearing upon their profession, and who come out well recommended, are sure of getting on in this country." Large fortunes have been made by medical men there, and although the climate is free from those fearful epidemic diseases which ravage other portions of the globe, the practitioners of medicine find plenty to do in the exercise of their profession. A free passage is easily to be obtained, by making application to the merchants and owners of ships trading to Australia. If interest can be made with the Australian commissioners appointed by Government, some valuable situations may be procured. The office of surgeon to an emigrant ship is a desirable one to have, as the medical man is paid so much per head for each emigrant. We knew one gentleman who realized in a few years, in this way, six hundred pounds, with which he purchased a medical partnership in the West Indies, which now brings him in one thousand pounds per annum. The situation is not the most comfortable one that could be desired, but

it is lucrative, and this will be considered a great recommendation.

Many young men of the medical profession, since the declaration of independence by Brazil, have emigrated to that country. Although the establishment of two medical schools at Rio de Janeiro and Bahia, is calculated to supply the great demand for medical practitioners, European physicians are not precluded from establishing themselves; but on the contrary, from their superior education, receive every encouragement.

The great difficulty an English physician has to contend with, is the Portuguese language; of which, should he not have acquired a competent knowledge, his practice will, in consequence, for a year or two, be limited.

With a view, in great measure, to avail themselves of an opportunity of getting over this difficulty, many have heretofore gone out in the capacity of surgeon to one of the numerous gold-mining companies, established in central Brazil. They usually engage with the companies in London, to serve for three years, at a salary varying from £250 to £300 per annum. The expense of their passage to Rio, as also of their journey to the mines, being defrayed by the company. The mines are situated in the province of Minas Geraes, distant from Rio about 350 English miles.

They have strictly to confine themselves each to the medical care of about eight hundred persons, consisting of Europeans, Africans, and natives. The



African slaves are the most difficult to manage, owing to their ignorance of the language, and immoral habits.

The surgeon is required to know thoroughly every branch of the profession; and must always be ready to act on his own judgment, for the distance from any other practitioner precludes all consultation in urgent cases. Accidents of a serious nature are constantly occurring; and he is frequently called on to perform capital operations without any competent assistant. He must also practice midwifery, and be his own pharmacist. To lessen his labours, an infirmary for the slaves, containing from twenty to fifty beds, is attached to every mine.

Very few remain in this service after their engagements have expired, superior advantages offering, and a desire to free themselves from the thralldom of a company too often exerted with more than necessary despotism. They either settle in the towns, or enter on agricultural pursuits. If the former be preferred, from £400 to £500 per annum may be realized.

Some who had capital have speculated in mining for gold, whilst others have purchased coffee-plantations. The latter is preferable from the certainty of profit, and especially as it does not interfere with medical practice.

The expenses of living may be estimated from £150 to £200 per annum.

As the Brazilians give a preference to physicians, we would recommend those who intend to emigrate

to that country to provide themselves with a medical diploma, or they will not stand so good a chance of succeeding, or be so much respected in society.

Our West India Colonies, as they have afforded many openings for medical men, will, if we mistake not, when the agitation consequent on the vast social revolution in that portion of the British Empire has subsided, present an admirable field for the exertion and enterprise of both physicians and surgeons. During the existence of slavery, many medical men derived considerable profit by being attached, in the capacity of medical attendant, to estates. Some having under their charge as many as thirty of them, and were remunerated at a certain rate per negro. Since the total emancipation of the labouring population, medical men have still been retained by the planters; and their charges for attendance, which it is presumed are not materially altered, are still paid by them and deducted out of the wages which the negroes receive. The average sum paid to a surgeon, is from 5*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.* per annum for each negro on the estate. Many medical men, prior to the passing of the emancipation act, were receiving from six to eight hundred a year; and many surgeons, by fortunate speculations, have been enabled to retire with large fortunes. Should a surgeon not be able to obtain from an English merchant, resident in London, the medical charge of a negro-plantation in any of our West India Colonies, he had better visit that part of the country, and he need have no fear of not soon obtaining employment. We knew one gentleman,

who with good interest, in vain endeavoured to procure the charge of a West-India estate. He left England for Jamaica, in which place he had not been two weeks before he obtained the object of his wishes; and he is now connected with a large plantation, and will, we have no doubt, retire a wealthy man.

Large and capacious hospitals are erected on every extensive sugar plantation, in which there are separate apartments for the men and women; there is always a cook, and one of the best and most trustworthy women on the estate is appointed to attend the hospital as sick nurse: her duty is to keep the hospital and the sick in it clean, and to administer such nourishment to the patient as may be prescribed. Besides the regular surgeon, there is on every estate an intelligent man who performs the duties of hospital doctor, and who, in course of time, acquires sufficient experience to enable him to attend to the ordinary cases of disease; thus considerably relieving the surgeon of his otherwise arduous duties. We have been informed, by a gentleman connected with the West India body, that a surgeon has, within the last few months, retired from one of our colonies, having amassed in the exercise of his profession, twenty thousand pounds! To those, on whom fortune may be frowning in this country, we say, "Go, and do thou likewise."



## CHAPTER V.

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### ARMY AND NAVY SURGEONS, AND EAST INDIA COMPANY'S MEDICAL SERVICE.

Medical Men neglected by Government—Army Surgeons—Course of Study necessary—The late Brevet—The present Anomalous Position of Medical Men in the Army—Pay of Surgeons, &c. in the Army—Navy Medical Regulations—Pay, Retiring Allowance, &c.—East India Company's Medical Service.

It is unfortunate for the medical profession that there are so few sources of distinction and wealth open to its members, beyond the ordinary routine of practice. In the other professions there are situations of trust, honour, and profit, which act as incentives to exertion, and are bestowed as prizes to reward success; and it is greatly to be regretted that in so useful and responsible a calling as that of medicine, there are so few similar inducements held out to stimulate the exertions and studies of its members.

No public measure would be of such incalculable benefit to the country, as the institution of some great prizes to reward the diligent student in a science so difficult, and, at the same time, so essential to the public weal, as medicine; but they must be prizes *worth* contending for, not merely empty honorary distinctions high-sounding titles, and place without perquisite. Though government has not as yet taken one such step for the encouragement of medical science in England, yet there are a few public situations of emolument and trust, thrown like crumbs to the profession, because *ex necessitaté* they can be filled only by its members, and it is of these that we are now to treat.

The Army claims our first attention, as it opens the widest door to honourable and profitable employment.

A medical man, on obtaining his commission in the army, must proceed immediately to the depôt at Chatham; and he will not be allowed, upon any consideration, to obtain leave of absence to see his friends. In selecting from among the candidates for the medical department of the army, a preference is given to those whose acquirements are the most extensive, and whose knowledge of mathematics, natural history, and moral philosophy, will bear testing, as well as his medical attainments; but the name of no gentleman can be placed on the list who does not possess the diploma of either of the Colleges of Surgeons of London, Edinburgh, or Dublin, and who cannot produce the following testimonials:—

- 18 Months attendance on an Hospital of celebrity, where the average number of In-Patients is not less than 80.
- 24 „ Anatomy.
- 12 „ Practical Anatomy
- 12 „ Surgery, or (what is preferred) six Months Surgery, and six Months Military Surgery.
- 6 „ Clinical Surgery, a complete Course of two or three Lectures during the week.
- 12 „ Practice of Physic, or six months Practice of Physic, and six of General Pathology.
- 6 „ Clinical Lectures on ditto, the same as required in Surgery.
- 12 „ Chemistry.
- 6 „ Practical Chemistry.
- 3 „ Botany.
- 4 „ Materia Medica.
- 3 „ Practical Pharmacy, or Apprenticeship.
- 5 „ Natural History.
- 4 „ Midwifery.

The candidates must be unmarried, not beyond twenty-six years of age, nor under twenty-one years.

Candidates who have had an University education, and have the degree of A.M. as well as that of M.D. will be preferred; but a liberal education, and a competent knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages are indispensably requisite in every candidate.

The greater the attainments of the candidates in various branches of science, in addition to competent professional knowledge, the more eligible will they subsequently be deemed for promotion in the service; for selections to fill vacancies will be guided more by reference to such acquirements, than to mere seniority.

The rank of Physician to the Forces, or Assistant-Inspector of Hospitals, requires, in addition to the knowledge and experience to be gained in the regular progress of study and



experience in the service, that the individual should be a Fellow or Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of London, or a Graduate of the University of Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Dublin, Glasgow, Aberdeen, or of the Faculty of Medicine of Glasgow.

Although the British schools are specified, it is to be understood that candidates who have received regular education in approved Foreign Universities or schools will be admitted to examination.

With the exception of Practice of Physic and Clinical Medicine by one teacher, candidates must have attended separate Lectures for each branch of science.

Before promotion from the rank of Assistant-Surgeon to any higher rank, every gentleman must be prepared for such other examination as may be ordered before a Board of Medical Officers.

Diplomas, tickets of attendance on lectures, and certificates of regular attendance by each Professor or Lecturer, must be lodged at the Office for Examination and Registry, at least one week before the candidate appears for examination; and likewise certificates of moral conduct and character, one of them by a clergyman, and that of the parochial minister is desirable. Baptismal certificates are required at the same time; if the parish register cannot be resorted to, an affidavit from one of the parents, or some person who can attest the fact, will be accepted.

The certificate of the teacher of Practical Anatomy must state the number of subjects or parts dissected by the pupil.

Certificates of Lectures and Attendance must be from Physicians or Surgeons of the recognized Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons in the United Kingdom, or of Foreign Universities.

The pay of the medical officers, and retiring allowances, &c., will be perceived in that portion of this chapter where a comparison is drawn between the management of the army and navy medical department.

Many and loud have been the complaints of the army medical officers, in consequence of their department being overlooked in the last brevet. The general staff, cavalry, infantry, artillery, engineers, commissariat department, and marines, all shared in a greater or less degree in the general promotion; the medical portion, however, was selected as the exception. Well may Mr. Napier observe, "that almost every class of officers in the army, have repeatedly been brought before the country in a variety of modes, yet, a full measure of justice has not been obtained even by those hardy veterans who earned their laurels on the fields of the Peninsula or Waterloo."

The present position of the army medical surgeon is an anomalous one. He is compelled to enter much later in life than all others; and, while in that rank in which three-fourths of his whole services are performed, he has neither so good daily pay as the other civil officers in the army, nor under any circumstances, has he the power of realizing a sum by the sale of his commission, like the purely military officer. At the same time the slowness of promotion in the department exceeds all others, especially among the junior ranks. The list of assistant surgeons amounts at this period to 310, of which number upwards of thirty have been twenty years without promotion.

A surgeon after receiving an expensive education, and passing through the ordeal of his examination, will, in all probability have to wait for some years before he can procure a commission; consequently, when he begins his career, he is from

twenty-three to twenty-four years of age: he must be twenty-one by the regulations. On entering the service, he meets with officers of his own age in the rank of lieutenant, whether they may have purchased or not, and already within the range of a very comfortable article in the warrant, regulating the grants of half-pay, &c., which provides, in the event of his wishing to retire from the service, that "If he did not purchase his commission, he may receive the new price of that commission; if a lieutenant, with *seven years' full pay* service in the army, or with *six years*, if a Cornet or Ensign; and the old price of the commission if *under* those periods, and above *four years' full pay* service." Even the possibility of such a benefit can never be attained by medical officers under any circumstances, or by any length of service. Many of those who have left the army, after seven years, could not procure the slightest remuneration for their past services. An assistant surgeon has the rank of lieutenant at once, and he is allowed one shilling per diem more than those of the same grade, we suppose, to make up for what he has lost by being obliged to enter so late, and for such medical books, instruments, &c., as his profession requires him to have in his possession. It must be admitted that the duties of the army surgeon are of a much more arduous character than those performed by any other officer attached to the army. The surgeon's post is always at the head-quarters of his regiment. He shares the hardships of the field, of the camp, and of foreign stations. He must encounter the burning



rays of the meridian sun within the tropics, the chilly damps of night, or inhale the deleterious effluvia of the swamp or lake, at an hour when it is doubly pestilential to the human frame. Much of his time must be spent in the fulsome air of the hospital, for so it will be whenever many bodies labouring under the influence of mortal disease, are congregated together in a hot climate. But above all, he must bear up against that desponding passion which will often haunt the recesses of the most stern and philosophic mind, when he sees men daily, or even hourly, hurried off by some unconquerable malady, before there is even time for the operation of the most rapid medical treatment. His mind is always engaged, and his cares are unceasing, for each successive day brings fresh cases of disease, which absorb his interest, or excite that painful anxiety which naturally arises when the life of a fellow-creature is endangered. After ten years' actual service in the army, assistant surgeons, by a late regulation, receive an increase of pay of *2s. 6d.* per diem. This particular improvement in the condition was hailed as the harbinger of a more full compensation for the former neglect with which their services were treated.

The following fact will show the nature of the peculiar hardships with which army surgeons have to contend. At one of our foreign stations a strong detachment of a regiment was employed in making a road through a marshy and insalubrious district; all the men had extra pay, and the officers who merely mustered their respective parties, and marched them to work, were

allowed 4s. 4d. *per diem*, while the medical officers in charge of the whole, with *strict orders* to visit all the detachment once or twice a day, making a circuit of eight or ten miles, were granted *nothing, not even forage for a horse*, in so laborious a duty !

NAVY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—For the future no surgeon will be admitted into the navy without possessing a diploma from a recognized College of Surgeons. He must also give proofs of having received a good classical education ; also,

That he is of good moral character.

That he has served an apprenticeship, or has been engaged for not less than six months in practical pharmacy.

That his age be not less than twenty years, nor more than twenty-four years ; and that he be unmarried.

That he has actually attended an hospital in London, Edinburgh, Dublin, or Glasgow, for two years, in which the average number of patients is not less than eighty.

That he has been engaged in actual dissections of the human body twelve months ; the certificate of which from the teacher must state the number of subjects or parts dissected by the candidate.

That he has attended lectures, &c., on the following subjects, at established schools of eminence, by physicians or surgeons of the recognised colleges of physicians and surgeons, in the united kingdom, for periods not less than hereunder stated : observing, however, that such lectures will not be admitted if the teacher shall lecture on more than one branch of science.

Anatomy { Or General Anatomy 12 months, and  
Comparative Anatomy 6 months ..... } 18 months

Surgery { Or General Surgery 12 months, and  
Military Surgery 6 months..... } 18 ,,

Theory of Medicine } If the Lectures on the Theo-  
ry and Practice of Medicine } 6 ,,

Practice of ditto { are given in conjunction, then  
the period required is 18 mhs. } 12 ,,

Clinical Lectures	} On the Practice of Medicine. Ditto	} Surgery.	6 months
			6 „
Chemistry	{ Or Lectures on Chemistry 3 months. and Practical Chemistry 3 months.... }		6 „
Materia Medica .....			6 „
Midwifery	{ Accompanied by certificates stating the number of midwifery cases per- sonally attended .....		6 „
Botany		{ Or General Botany, 3 months, and Medical Botany, 3 months..... }	6 „

In addition to the tickets for the lectures, certificates must be produced from the professors, &c., by whom the lectures were given, stating the periods (in months) *actually* attended by the candidates. The time also of actual attendance at an Hospital or Infirmary must be certified; and the tickets, as well as certificates of attendance, age, moral character, &c., must be produced by the candidate immediately on his being desired to appear for examination.

Although the above are the only qualifications which are absolutely required in candidates for the appointment of assistant surgeon, a favourable consideration will be given to the cases of those who have obtained the degree of M.D. at either of the universities of Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Dublin, or Glasgow; or who, by possessing a knowledge of the diseases of the eye, and of any branch of science connected with the profession, such as Medical Jurisprudence, Natural History, Natural Philosophy, &c., appear to be more peculiarly eligible for admission into the service.

By the rules of the service, no assistant surgeon can be promoted to the rank of surgeon until he shall have served three years in the former capacity, one year of which he must be in a ship actually employed at sea: and it is resolved that not any diploma or certificate of examination from either of the aforesaid royal colleges, shall be admitted towards the qualification for surgeon, unless the diploma or certificate shall be obtained on an examination passed after a period of not less than three years actual service; observing that no one can be admitted to



an examination for surgeon, unless he be a member of one of the above-named royal colleges: and, whenever assistant surgeons already in the service (whose professional education may not be in accordance with the above) obtain leave to study previously to their passing for surgeon, they will be required, on their examination, to produce testimonials of their having availed themselves of the period of leave to complete their education agreeably to these regulations.

It is also to be observed, that candidates who may be admitted into the naval medical service, must serve in whatever ships, &c., they may be appointed to; and that in the event of their being unable to do so from sea-sickness, their names cannot be continued on the naval medical list, nor can they, of course, be allowed half-pay.

The following tabular statement will shew the comparative rates of pay of the medical officers in the army and navy:—

	ARMY, PER DIEM.											
	Under 10 years.			10 years.			20 years.			25 years.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Assistant Surgeon -	0	7	6	0	10	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
Regtal. Surgeon -	0	13	0	0	15	0	0	19	0	1	2	0
Staff Surgeon -	0	14	0	0	15	0	1	0	0	1	3	0
Assistant Inspector	0	0	0	0	19	0	1	2	0	1	4	0
Deputy Inspector -	0	0	0	1	4	0	1	8	0	1	10	0
Inspector of Hospitals	0	0	0	1	6	0	1	8	0	2	0	0

	NAVY, PER DIEM.											
	Under 10 years.			10 years.			20 years.			25 years.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Assistant Surgeon -	0	6	6	0	6	6	0	6	6	0	6	6
Regtal. Surgeon -	10s & 11s			0	14	0	0	18	0	0	18	0

From this it will be seen that the pay of the army assistant surgeon, after ten years' service, is equal to that of a surgeon in the navy who has served under six years in that rank; and that his *minimum* pay is greater than of the naval assistant, who receives no increase of pay for any length of servitude. The pay of the regimental surgeon, like that of the naval surgeon, is graduated by his service on full pay; but is higher at any period than that of the naval surgeon.

The army surgeon is allowed to reckon the whole of his time served on full pay as assistant, for increase of pay. The naval surgeon, though he may have served fifteen or twenty years as an assistant, is only allowed to reckon three years of that time for increase of pay.

The army medical officer, may continue on full pay from the day he enters the service as assistant, until he completes the period of servitude. The naval medical officer, is put on half-pay every three years, or oftener, in consequence of his ship being paid off; or, if sent sick to an hospital, and not able to return to his ship within a limited period, he is placed on half-pay. In either case, months or years may elapse before he can obtain another appointment; so that he cannot attain the increased rates of pay in the same space of time as the army medical officer, whose full-pay service is not necessarily interrupted.

The army medical officer has four higher grades than regimental surgeon to aspire to, by attaining any of which, a higher rate of pay is received. In the naval service there are two surgeons to the marine

infirmaries, who have £365 each, and two at Chatham and Woolwich have £450 each. The heads of the three medical establishments at Malta, Jamaica, and Halifax, have £500 a-year each. The surgeons of the naval yards at Woolwich, Chatham, Sheerness, Portsmouth, and Plymouth, have £500 a-year. The surgeon of Pembroke yard has but £400. The physician-general of the navy has a salary of £1,000 a-year. The physicians to Hasler and Plymouth hospitals have £600 a-year each, and the three surgeons have each £500. The principal medical officer of an army in the field, or on foreign service, or of a colony, receives allowances in addition to his pay. The surgeon of a flag-ship (even bearing the flag of a commander-in-chief on a foreign station) receives no allowance whatever.

An equal disparity appears in the half-pay to which medical officers are entitled upon the reduction of the establishments to which they may belong.

	ARMY PER DIEM.									
	Under 10 years.		10 years.		20 years.		25 years.		30 years.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Assistant Surgeon -	4	0	5	0	6	0	7	0	7	6
Regtal. Surgeon -	6	0	8	6	11	0	13	0	15	0

	NAVY PER DIEM.									
	Under 10 years.		10 years.		20 years.		25 years.		30 years.	
	s.	s.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Assistant Surgeon -	2	&3	3	0	3	0	3	0	3	0
Regtal. Surgeon -	5	&6	6	0	6	0	6	0	15	0



The other army medical appointments, to which there are no equivalents in the naval service, have half-pay in proportion, amounting in the case of inspection of hospitals to £1:5 per diem, after thirty years' service.

In the navy there is no period of servitude after which an assistant surgeon can claim to retire on half-pay. The surgeon may, after twenty years' service on full pay, (reckoning only three years' time for any length of servitude as assistant,) retire on 6s. per diem; but if the cause of his retirement be ill health, contracted on service, he may, if the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty be perfectly satisfied as to his total incapability for further service, receive 10s., otherwise he cannot claim any thing additional to the half-pay of 6s. a day, till he has served on full-pay thirty years, when he has a right to retire on 15s. per diem.

A surgeon who may have served ten years as an assistant, and twenty years as a surgeon on full-pay, making a period of thirty years' service, is only entitled to receive 6s. a day half-pay; the same sum being given to an officer who may have served only six years altogether. Hence it is that many of the medical officers, after having attained the half-pay of 6s. are not desirous of being employed.

We will now endeavour to give a short statement of the prospects of a person entering the medical department of the navy. In the first place, he must receive a thorough medical and surgical education, as the qualifications necessary are as high, and in some respects higher, than in any other public service.

2. Should he receive an appointment, and his ship be paid off before the completion of his two years' service, he is not entitled to any half-pay, and must support himself till he receives another. If he has completed two years' service, he will be allowed 2*s.* per diem, and if three, 3*s.* after which he is allowed no further increase of half-pay for any length of service as assistant.

After three years' service he is allowed to pass for surgeon, and becomes eligible to be promoted to that rank; but should he serve ten years longer, he is allowed no increase of pay, and will only be allowed to reckon three years in computing his servitude. Many are now serving who are upwards of ten years' standing.

3. If after this length of servitude he should be promoted to the rank of surgeon, and be placed on half-pay before he has served three years, he will be entitled to 5*s.* a day, the same half-pay that is given to an army assistant. He will also be placed on half-pay every three years, and months or years may elapse before he obtains another appointment; so that between loss of time as an assistant, and loss of time or half-pay as a surgeon, it may never be in his power to complete the period of servitude to entitle him to the retirement.

THE EAST INDIA COMPANY'S MEDICAL SERVICE is next in point of rank, and superior in point of pay to the British service; the regulations for admission into which we give from the official returns.

AGE.—The assistant surgeon must not be under twenty-two years, in proof of which he must produce

an extract from the register of the parish in which he was born, or his own declaration pursuant to the Act of the 5th & 6th Gulielmi IV. cap. 62, and the certificates, agreeable to the forms to be obtained in the office for cadets and assistant surgeons.

QUALIFICATION IN SURGERY.—Upon receiving a nomination, the assistant surgeon will be furnished with a letter to the Court of Examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons to be examined in surgery, and their certificate will be deemed a satisfactory testimonial of his qualification; but should the assistant surgeon be previously in possession of a diploma from the Royal College of Surgeons in London, or the Colleges of Surgeons in Dublin or Edinburgh, or the College and University of Glasgow, or of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, either of them will be deemed satisfactory as to his knowledge of surgery without any further examination.

QUALIFICATIONS IN PHYSIC.—The assistant surgeon will also be required to pass an examination by the company's examining physician in the practice of physic, in which examination will be included as much anatomy and physiology as is necessary for understanding the causes and treatment of internal diseases, as well as the art of prescribing and compounding medicines; and satisfactory proof will be required of his having attended at least two courses of lectures on the practice of physic, and above all, the production of a certificate of diligent attendance upon the practice of the physicians at some general *hospital* in London, for six months; or at some general hospital in the country (within the United



Kingdom) for six months, provided the said provincial hospital contained at least on an average one hundred in-patients, and has attached to it a regular establishment of physicians and surgeons. No attendance on the practice of a physician at any *dispensary* will be admitted.

The assistant surgeon is required, by resolution of court of May 21st, 1828, to apply at the cadet-office for his order for embarkation, and actually proceed under such orders within three months from the date of being passed and sworn before the military committee; he will then be furnished with an order to obtain the certificate of his appointment, signed by the secretary, for which he will pay a fee of £5 in the secretary's office.

The assistant surgeon is recommended to take with him a copy of Mr. Annesley's Sketch of the most Prevalent Diseases in India;\* and if he proceeds in one of the company's ships, he will have to pay £95 for his accommodation at the captain's table, or £55 for his accommodation at the third mate's mess, and his passage money must be lodged in the hands of the company's paymaster for the said captain, or third mate; as also his charter-party passage money of £12 to the owners. Upon the arrival of the assistant surgeon in India, and his admission on the establishment, in government general orders, his pay commences, which, with his rank, is the same as that of a lieutenant of infantry.

\* Dr. J. Johnson "On the Influence of Tropical Climates," is indispensable.

During the first six months after his arrival in India, the assistant surgeon is attached to the Presidency Garrison Hospital, when he obtains an insight into the peculiarities of tropical disease, and their remedial treatment, and has an opportunity of providing the equipments necessary to be purchased before he can proceed to join his regiment, which consists of the following principal articles:—Regimentals, a horse, a tent, a palanquin, six bullock-trunks fitted for the carriage of the country, a camp-cot, table, and chairs, a canteen or mess trunk, and a set of surgical and obstetrical instruments.

The pay of an assistant at 1s. 8d. the rupee, is per month of thirty days—

	Rupees.	£	s.	d.
Cavalry in garrison . . . . .	333.8	28	4	2
——— in the field . . . . .	363.8	30	5	10
Infantry in garrison . . . . .	224	18	13	4
——— in the field . . . . .	254	21	3	4

On joining the regiment the assistant surgeon receives, in addition to the pay of his rank in garrison or in the field, if in charge of five companies of natives, or two companies of Europeans, the difference between captains and lieutenants; half batta, or thirty rupees, (£2:10) and thirty rupees a month for his palanquin. Out of this pay the assistant surgeon is compelled to subscribe to the medical fund, upon entering one month's pay, and subsequently, if single, twenty eight rupees, (£2:6:8) and if married, thirty eight rupees (£3:4) monthly.

The average time required to ascend the list of assistant surgeons, to the rank of full surgeon, is fifteen years, when the medical officer receives the pay and rank of captain, *viz.*

	Rupees.	£	s.	d.
Cavalry in garrison . . . . .	520.6.4 or	43	7	3
——— in field . . . . .	560.6.4	46	12	11
Infantry in garrison . . . . .	371	31	18	4
——— in field . . . . .	411	34	5	0

In addition to his pay, if in charge of two companies of Europeans, or five companies or a whole regiment of natives, the surgeon receives 135 rupees (£11:5) and thirty rupees (£2:10) a month, for palanquin. Upon the promotion of a surgeon, to the rank of superintending surgeon, he is entitled to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and receives 1575 rupees (£131 5s.) per month. And upon the promotion of a superintending surgeon to the Medical Board he ranks with a colonel, and receives 2450 rupees (£204:3:4) per month.

Besides these ordinary appointments in the Army, there is on all the establishments, a certain number of garrison surgeons and assistant surgeons: the staff-pay of the former is 120 rupees (£10) that of the latter, sixty rupees (£5) per month. The surgeon of the garrison hospital at Calcutta, has 500 rupees (£41:13:4) monthly. At Madras, the garrison surgeon has 600 rupees (£50) without contracts or other allowance. Zillah surgeons and assistant surgeons, that is, medical officers attached to civil stations, receive regimental pay and allowances; and



the difference between the half full batta of the next superior rank; that is, to a surgeon 105 rupees (£8 15s.) per month, for which he has to supply medicines to the court. There is still a vaccination allowance to medical officers attached to the civil department of Madras, but which has been abolished, with many other allowances, in Bengal.

In case of sickness, medical officers are allowed to return home on furlough, under the following regulations :

Officers of whatever rank must be ten years in India before they can be entitled, except in cases of certified sickness, to their rotation to be absent on furlough: and the same rule is applicable to military assistant surgeons.

Officers who have not served ten years in India, but whose presence in England is required by urgent private affairs, may be allowed a furlough for one year, without pay. No officer on furlough can receive pay for more than two years and a half from the period of his quitting India, excepting colonels of regiments, and those of the rank of lieutenant-colonel regimentally, when promoted to that of major-general.

The pay of an assistant surgeon on furlough in England, is £118:12:6; and that of a surgeon, is £196:12 per annum.

Regulations for the retirement :

1. Every military officer (with the following exceptions) after twenty-five years' service in India, three years for one furlough being included, is allowed to retire with the pay of his rank, within twelve

months of his arrival in Europe ; but such pay only as that allowed to officers of infantry,

2. Members of the medical board, who have been at that station not less than two years, and not less than twenty years in India, including three years for one furlough, are permitted to retire from the service, and allowed £500 per annum ; or, in the event of ill health, they may retire on that pension, after any period of service, as member of the medical board ; and £700 per annum, if they have served *five years* in that station, or are obliged after *three years* service to retire from ill health.

3. Superintending surgeons, who have been in that station not less than two years, and whose period of service has not been less than twenty years, including three years for one furlough, are permitted to retire from the service, and allowed £300 per annum ; or, in the event of ill-health, they may retire on that pension after any period of service, as superintending surgeon ; and £365 if they have served five years in that station, or are obliged after three years service to retire from ill health.

4. All other surgeons and assistant surgeons, attached to the military, are permitted to retire from the service, on the pay of their rank, after having served in India not less than twenty years, including three years for one furlough. When officers on furlough retire upon the pay or half-pay of their rank, they are only entitled to claim the benefit of the rank held by them at the expiration of one year, from the date of their landing in the united kingdom.

For the benefit of officers retiring from the company's service on account of ill-health, who have served less than three years in India, there is an allowance made from Lord Clive's fund the regulations of which are as follows :

Every petitioning officer must produce a certificate from his commanding officer, of his being an invalid, and rendered incapable of further service in India, together with an approbation of such certificate by the governor and council of the presidency where he shall have served.

Every commissioned officer must previously make oath before the governor and council, namely a member of the medical board, that he is not possessed of or entitled to real and personal property, to the value of £3000, a superintendant surgeon £2500, a surgeon £2000, and assistant surgeon £1000; and in case of death, their widows must produce proof, or affidavit, that their husbands did not die possessed of property as above.

Petitioners residing in England may be admitted, if the court shall adjudge them to be proper objects. The allowances are as follows :

	Per Annum.			Per Day.	
	£	s.	d.	s.	d.
Members of the Medical Board . . . . .	182	10	0	or	10 0
Superintendant Surgeons . . . . .	136	17	6	—	7 6
Surgeons . . . . .	91	5	0	—	5 0
Assistant Surgeons . . . . .	45	12	6	—	2 6

In these piping times of peace, very great interest is required with the directors of the East India



Company, to obtain an appointment in their military service, and a much higher qualification is demanded than was deemed sufficient during the war ; and yet it is astonishing—considering the expense of a medical education and outfit, the difficulty of obtaining appointments, and the miserable remuneration which is made for their services—that qualified surgeons should so eagerly desire to connect themselves with the military profession in India ; and it can only be because there are, from the crowded state of the profession, so few opportunities of money-getting in England, that they are willing to submit to so many humiliating conditions, on receiving the paltry appointment of assistant surgeon in the Hon. East India Company's military service. To those medical students, whose desire to wear a red coat and sword, and to be *thought* military men, is the *ne plus ultra* of their ambition, it may be useful to know, that one of the prizes granted to the best proficient in medical and surgical science, at University College, London, is an assistant surgeoncy in the East India Company's military service !!

## CHAPTER VI.

### SKETCHES OF EMINENT LIVING PHYSICIANS.

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Sir H. Halford—Sir J. Clark—Drs. Chambers—Bright—Conquest—T. Davis—Granville—Hope—Merriman—Elliotson—Copeland—H. Davies—Sir J. Macgregor—Hall—Farrady—Mantell—W. Philip—Arnott—Turnbull—Clutterbuck—Sigmond—Sir W. Burnet—Roget—L. Stewart, Paris—Sir C. M. Clarke—Tweedie—Forbes—J. Johnson—S. Smith—Prout—Blundell—Marat—Owen—Addison.

THE task which we have proposed to ourself is one surrounded by a variety of difficulties. Many objections naturally occurred to our mind with reference to the propriety of writing sketches or memoirs of eminent living men; but all these considerations yielded to a stern sense of duty.

Medical men are, in every sense of the word, public property. The position which they hold necessarily raises them on a height for observation and

criticism; and the moment they wish to evade inquiry, that moment they cease to be objects of public regard.

The members of the medical profession are guardians of the public health—the arbiters of life and death. The lives of those that employ them are placed in their power; and the fate of those nearest and dearest to us are often dependent on their knowledge and exertions—their discrimination and judgment. Surely then it is for the advantage of society that the physician and surgeon's character and intrinsic worth should be properly weighed, in order that the public may be enabled to make a selection of those in whom the most implicit confidence may be placed. Were this honestly, fearlessly, and impartially executed, the reputation of medical men would not depend, as it often does, on the adventitious circumstances of connection, public caprice, and other arts commonly had recourse to in order to attract the notice of the crowd. Then merit alone would lead to preferment; and neither the gorgeous equipage or splendid establishment would be considered as a passport to practice.

We have nothing to do with the private lives or histories of men. We do not envy the feelings of that man who could enter the domestic circle for the purpose of collecting material to cater to the vitiated taste of the public. We deal only with them as public men; we view them in this capacity; we point out the position they hold in society; for what peculiar talent they are distinguished; and whether they are



entitled to the support and patronage of those from whom alone they can expect it. Many allowances ought to be made for the medical profession generally. It is a duty, the exercise of which is not attended with the most pleasing intercourse. It views human nature in its most despicable, and too often pitiful moments, when it is almost impossible to please, and too often sure to offend. Well may Dr. Johnson have defined the practice of medicine to be “a melancholy attendance on misery, a mean submission to peevishness, and a continual interruption to rest and pleasure.” The chamber of the rich generally affords a scene of pain and distress:—the feelings are harassed; the disposition tried; and the physician who is the harbinger of health ought not to approach the bed of the afflicted with the indifference of a stoic, or with the meretricious sympathy of a hireling. He ought to be a gentleman in his manners, and a man of tenderness and feeling in his general deportment. That this is the general characteristic of the medical profession must be admitted by all who have been thrown much into their society. That in so large a body of men some should be found coarse and brutal in their conduct is not to be wondered at; but it cannot be questioned that the great majority are distinguished for the refinement of their manners, the vigour and enlargement of their minds, and the kindness and gentleness of their feelings.

Having made these preliminary observations, we shall proceed to the discharge of the duty imposed upon us.

The name of SIR HENRY HALFORD, the President of the Royal College of Physicians, naturally occurs to our mind as the physician to whom we ought *imprimis* to introduce to the notice of our readers. This gentleman holds the most exalted position in the profession to which the most ambitious can aspire. To be made a baronet—to have been for many years the chief court physician—to be, for life, president of the first medical corporation in the United Kingdom—are, indeed, honours rarely, in this country, conferred on any one single individual.

The question for the public to decide is this—and we should, *en passant*, observe, that it is one frequently asked—does Sir Henry Halford owe his position to the circumstance of his connections, and other adventitious causes, or is he really entitled, by merit, to be placed as he is at the head of the medical profession? Without wishing to give the president of the College of Physicians any credit for talent and learning to which he cannot fairly lay claim, we have no hesitation in stating, that he is deservedly entitled to the rank he holds in the medical world, and to the confidence placed in him by the public.

Like most men in an elevated position in society, he has exposed himself to the attacks and malevolence of those who are ever ready to vilify the great and the good.

A recent painful transaction, which we shall not more particularly specify, has given Sir Henry Halford's enemies some slight semblance of justice for the constant personal attacks levelled against his pro-

fessional reputation. Much, however, may be said in extenuation of what, at first sight, might be considered as an exhibition of a want of proper feeling towards a friend and professional brother. Taking the *ex parte* statements which the newspapers have published in reference to this transaction, we do not consider Sir Henry's conduct justifies the unkind criticism and animadversion to which it has been exposed.

The best and kindest of human beings are liable to errors of judgment. It is very evident that the physician was not conscious of the nature and danger of his friend's attack, otherwise, we feel assured, from our knowledge of his general character, he would have been the last to have deserted him in the time of danger.

From what has come to our knowledge, we are certain that Sir Henry Halford, in his own mind, and in the estimation of his friends, is fully exonerated from all the imputations which, owing to this circumstance, have been cast upon him.

In his general deportment and intercourse with the world, he is distinguished for sweetness, generosity, and kindness of disposition—ever ready to assist the needy and necessitous, either with his purse or advice. In Sir Henry, the poor as well as the rich find a kind friend; and were we at liberty, we could mention facts which would put to blush and discomfiture the most rancorous of his enemies. On one occasion he was consulted by a lady, the widow of a clergyman of the establishment, on account of the severe illness of one of her children. The little patient



was taken to the physician's house in a carriage. Upon examination, Sir Henry detected an insidious disease going on in the lungs, which fact he communicated as delicately as possible to the mother. She appeared much distressed at the announcement, and having received a prescription, and paid the usual fee, she was on the eve of leaving, when Sir Henry observed, that it would not be prudent to bring the child out again, and that he would call next morning to see it. He accordingly did so, and at a glance the discerning physician saw the peculiar position in which the widow was situated. She was left with several children, on an income of seventy pounds a year, which she received from an insurance office. During her husband's life she lived in comfort and affluence—his sudden death reduced her to the melancholy situation in which she then was. Sir Henry, after attending to his little patient, wrote his prescription, and on the fee being presented, he obstinately refused to take it, stating that the profession considered it their duty to attend the families of clergymen gratuitously. She felt hurt at his refusing, but the physician was resolute. For nearly ten days did Sir Henry visit his little patient regularly every day, until he was quite out of danger. His kindness and generosity did not, however, stop here. Through his interest the eldest boy was admitted into the Charter-House; and he, out of his own private purse, provided for two other children of the family. Independently of this, he was of great assistance to the poor widow, who taught music and French. He procured for her many pupils; and the whole fa-

mily have every reason to bless the hour when first they were brought into contact with the president of the Royal College of Physicians.

This, however, is not a solitary instance in which his truly kind heart has delighted itself in the "luxury of doing good" to his fellow-creatures. He has never been known to refuse to visit a patient, however poor and despised the patient might be. On one occasion he was attending an old servant of the family who was residing some little distance from town. During the night the symptoms became more alarming, and Sir Henry was sent for in a great hurry. When the messenger arrived, he had just been sent for to attend the Duke of ——, who had been seized with an attack of an old complaint. The answer Sir Henry gave to the duke's servant was this—"I have to go to Bromley, to visit an old servant of mine, who is dangerously ill: I will do myself the honour of waiting upon his highness directly I return." Sir Henry accordingly ordered his carriage, and drove to Bromley, and after seeing and prescribing for the patient, he waited upon the duke.

It is hoped that these facts will demonstrate satisfactorily, that Sir H. Halford is not quite destitute of the "milk of human kindness," and that his heart does sometimes beat in kind sympathy for the sufferings of his fellow men, however low may be their situation or penurious their circumstances.

Sir H. Halford deservedly occupies a high place in public regard. Sir Henry is the son of the late Dr. James Vaughan, who successfully practised physic in the town of Leicester, and contributed

several able works to the fund of medical literature. He was born some time in the year 1766, received his preliminary education at Rugby, and afterwards entered at Christ Church, Oxford, where he obtained the degree of A.B. in 1787, M.A. in 1789, M.B. in 1790, and M.D. in 1794.

In 1795 Sir Henry contracted a matrimonial alliance with the noble family of St. John, which brought him at once in contact with men who could appreciate his general learning, and with women who could admire his courtly address; and by the death of his mother's cousin, he became possessed of sufficient fortune to maintain his ground in the elevated circle in which he moved. Every thing thus contributing to favour his advancement, it would indeed have been a surprising thing had he not succeeded in attaining an elevated position. Well born, well educated, with easy manners, and courtly address, thrown among men of the highest rank, and with a fortune equal to the circumstances in which he was placed, it is not astonishing that Sir Henry should so soon have found himself at the head of his profession, and on the high road to honour and fortune. In the year 1809, Dr. Vaughan, upon changing his name, received the honour of a baronetcy from George III., and was appointed soon after to the melancholy duty of attending upon his majesty during his second illness, in conjunction with Drs. Willis, Baillie, and Heberden. In this important and interesting duty, Sir Henry acquitted himself so much to the satisfaction of the family, as to be honoured with a continu-



ation of their confidence and regard; and never before, perhaps, was it the privilege of any courtier to enjoy such an uninterrupted flow of royal favour as was poured upon the head of the court physician, during the reigns of George III., George IV., William IV., and her present Majesty Queen Victoria.

Sir Henry is an elegant scholar, and intimately acquainted with classical literature. He is distinguished for the purity and beauty of his Latin compositions, as well as for his extensive scientific information. His large fortune, his courtly manners, and the high rank which he holds as president of the College of Physicians, have obtained for him an introduction into the most fashionable society.

As a literary man, Sir Henry Halford has acquired, and deservedly so, a high reputation, although his publications have not been numerous. His three Latin orations are distinguished by the purity of their style, and the union of professional and general knowledge which they present. His essays have obtained a very large circulation, and may be referred to as fully disproving the assertion so often made, that profound medical scientific knowledge is incompatible with those acquirements which distinguish the accomplished man of letters. In one of these essays, Sir Henry has discussed "Shakspeare's test of insanity." "Bring me," says Hamlet,

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" To the test,  
And I the matter will re-word, which madness  
Would *gambol from*."

In proof of the propriety of this test, Sir Henry brings forward a case which came under his own personal knowledge, and in which he was enabled, by its application, to detect the insanity of a patient. This fact is sufficient to prove how available, even in the course of their professional duties, an acquaintance with general literature is to the medical man. Great attention was formerly directed to the influence which mental phenomena exercised upon the body; and, through the researches of Sir George Baker, and Dr. Falconer, considerable light has been thrown upon this interesting and important subject. Sir Henry has, however, performed for medical science no less service, in drawing attention to the influence which the diseases of the body have on the powers of the mind. His essay on this subject is exceedingly able, and manifests that love of philosophical investigation which is so indicative of the character of this eminent man. In another essay, he has presented to the public some remarkable circumstances respecting that terrible scourge, *tic douloureux*. To the moral treatment of insanity, one of the noblest discoveries of modern therapeutics, Sir Henry has also devoted much attention. His tract on this subject is remarkable for the soundness, as well as comprehensiveness of its views, and its just appreciation of the duties and obligations imposed on the physicians. In his paper "on the Education and Conduct of a Physician," he has indicated those studies by which "the medical character" is formed in its highest perfection. On the importance of classical knowledge, and those sciences which are con-

versant with the laws of the material world, such as chemistry, botany, and natural philosophy, he insists with great force and eloquence ; contending that they reflect considerable light on medical subjects, and tend to elevate and adorn the medical character. One of the most important contributions, however, which this eminent physician has afforded to medical science, is an introductory essay on the " Effects of Cold." In this he displays, and to great advantage, his knowledge of ancient and modern history. The subject, which is one of great difficulty, is treated in a highly scientific spirit, and will obtain for its author a high place amongst those who have aided the advance of medical philosophy in the earlier portion of the nineteenth century.

SIR JAMES CLARK enjoys the high honour of being principal physician to Queen Victoria. This eminent man is the son of a highly respectable gentleman who farmed a large estate in the county of Banffshire, where the subject of this sketch was born. After receiving the elements of education in his native town, Sir James was sent to Edinburgh, where he studied under the first medical professors attached to that celebrated school of medicine. He was remarkable, during his residence in this city, for his assiduity, and the unremitting attention which he paid to the medical classes ; and the advancement he made in a knowledge of his profession did credit to his industry and talent. After graduating, he obtained the appointment of travelling physician to a nobleman, with



whom he, in the year 1817, visited different parts of the continent, and finally, in 1819, settled at Rome. It was during his early residence there, that he manifested that great skill in the treatment of consumptive diseases, which has rendered his name so justly eminent as a "lung doctor." He brought himself into notice by his having cured several cases of pulmonary disease, which had baffled the skill of the faculty resident in England, and he was consequently consulted by numerous patients, who had resorted to Italy in the hope of being benefitted by its salubrious climate and change of air. In a short period, Sir J. Clark, then Dr. Clark, became so eminent for his success in the management of these cases, that many patients, particularly among the English nobility, visited Rome for the purpose of placing themselves under his professional care. In consequence of his unparalleled success in curing consumption, and other affections of the lungs, many of the most distinguished of the English nobility and gentry signed a requisition requesting Sir James to leave Rome, where he was occupied in large practice, and to settle in London; promising, if he complied with their wishes, to do their utmost to bring him into immediate practice. Urged by their solicitations, he was induced, much against his own feelings, and the expressed wishes of a numerous class of patients, by whom he was much beloved, to start for England; and having arrived in this country, he commenced practice in London, relying upon the support of those who had induced him to embark in the career of a London physician.

In a short period after being established in the metropolis, he acquired a most extensive practice, particularly in affections of the chest. His treatise on pulmonary consumption is considered to be the best practical work which has yet appeared on this subject; and his dissertation on climate is also regarded as a standard authority by the profession. In the former production, Sir James has developed many highly original and valuable views respecting consumption. He has clearly shown, that unless there be a predisposition to this disease—in fact, to speak professionally, unless *tubercles* actually exist in the lungs—no simple inflammation, or other affection of this organ, can develop pulmonary consumption. Prior to the publication of this able work, it was the generally received opinion in the profession, that *phthisical* disease was the common sequence of inflammation; but Sir J. Clark has clearly demonstrated the erroneousness of this notion. On this subject the doctor says, “After all the light which modern pathologists have thrown upon the nature, the diagnosis, the prognosis of consumption, it may well excite surprise that medical men should still regard a ‘*neglected cold,*’ ‘*inflammation of the lungs,*’ and the ‘*breaking of a blood-vessel,*’ as the chief causes of this disease. A more minute inquiry into the history of these cases would have convinced the medical man that, prior to the appearance of these symptoms, tuberculous disease existed.” Sir J. Clark does not concur in the opinion that consumption is contagious; although he considers the practice of sleeping in the

same bed, or in the same room, with a person in the advanced stage of this disease, highly objectionable. He speaks strongly of the benefits which result from the frequent exhibition of gentle emetics in the early stage of consumption, and directs the attention of the profession particularly to this remedy.

Prior to the demise of the late King, Sir J. Clark was physician to the Duchess of Kent. When the Princess Victoria ascended the throne, Sir J. Clark was requested by her majesty to make out a list of the physicians and surgeons, ordinary and extraordinary to the court, and submit it to her for approval. He accordingly obeyed the command of her majesty. Though Sir H. Halford had been principal physician to William the IV., and was Lord Melbourne's private physician, his name stood second or third on the list; and Sir J. Clark, because of his professional connection with the Duchess of Kent, thought himself justified in placing his own name first. Sir H. Halford considering, from the position which he had held for so long a time in the medical profession, as well as from the circumstance of his being president of the College of Physicians, that he was fully entitled to be nominated as the Queen's principal physician, had an interview with Lord Melbourne on the subject, who promised to mention the matter to her majesty, as well as to Sir James Clark. He accordingly did so, and Sir J. Clark's reply was, that he had no personal feeling in the matter, that he had a high respect for Sir H. Halford's eminent professional talents, and he had no objection to his name being placed at the



head of the list, and if that was agreed to his name should stand at the bottom. The subject was brought under the notice of her majesty, both by the prime minister and by Sir J. Clark; and the Queen expressed her resolute determination to have her wishes complied with. She observed, "As I am now Queen, I expect that my views and private feelings should be consulted—Sir J. Clark has always been my physician, and shall remain so, in spite of every opposition, from whatever quarter it may originate."

Finding that it was useless further to oppose the Queen, Sir H. Halford withdrew his claim—Lord Melbourne bowed submission to the royal mandate—and Sir J. Clark was officially gazetted as the principal physician to the court.

The late painful transaction connected with Lady Flora Hastings, has brought Sir James Clark's name prominently before the public, he having been much censured for the part which he has been represented to have taken in that delicate business. It is not our intention to vindicate the course which her majesty, and those connected with her, thought proper to adopt with reference to the lady in question; but we do think that the public, and particularly the press, has been a little too precipitate in passing judgment on the Queen's physician. The statement already published, it must be remembered, is but of an *ex-parte* nature, and should consequently be viewed with suspicion. That Lady Flora has clearly and nobly vindicated her character cannot for one moment be questioned, The breath of calumny cannot affect her

in the estimation of her family, her friends, or the public, whatever painful emotions the circumstance alluded to may excite in her own mind.

Suspicious of a singular nature were afloat in the palace for some time before any communication was made to Sir J. Clark. When he was requested to notice the circumstance, he properly cautioned the parties to be guarded in what they said, as there were many diseases productive of such appearances, which were calculated to mislead those unacquainted with medical matters. When the subject was mentioned to her majesty, she considered that it was incumbent on her to notice it; and accordingly commanded Sir James Clark to communicate to Lady Flora her majesty's suspicion that she had been—to use the Queen's own language—"privately married." Lady Flora indignantly repelled the insinuation she at once saw was conveyed in such courtly phraseology; and the result of the indelicate investigation that ensued, proved the utter groundlessness of the report which gave rise to her majesty's surmise. The particulars of this unpleasant affair have acquired a publicity, which, for the sake of all parties, it would have been more discreet to have suppressed; and to which we should not here allude, were it not to express our opinion that no blame can be justly imputed to Sir James Clark for the part he took in the transaction; and, had it not been his anxious wish to avoid doing anything to compromise the Queen, he would, long ere this, have vindicated himself from the aspersions levelled against his character.

Sir James Clark is about forty-five years of age. He is considerably above the ordinary height, and his manners are peculiarly bland and gentlemanly. A report was in circulation, a short time back, that Sir James had received permission from her majesty to travel on the continent. We are able to assert that there is no truth in the statement.

Sir James's practice is very extensive, particularly in affections of the lungs; but his practice is not confined to this class of disease, although he has devoted more attention to pulmonary than to any other maladies.

Dr. CHAMBERS is considered to rank among the first physicians of the day. His great celebrity and eminent abilities pointed him out as the most proper physician to be consulted in the case of his late majesty William the Fourth. In the instance of this gentleman we see what can be accomplished by perseverance and well-directed industry; and have an example of a man rising to the highest rank in his profession, although opposed by apparently insurmountable impediments.

Dr. Chambers sprung from a family of great respectability. In early life he came to London, apparently friendless, and commenced his medical studies under most disadvantageous circumstances. He fortunately was made of stern stuff, and was not easily discouraged. He had sketched a plan for his future campagne, and nothing could induce him to deviate from what he considered the path of duty.



Enemy after enemy was defeated—difficulty after difficulty surmounted, until he began to experience the reward which his unwearied application, in the pursuit of professional knowledge, had entitled him to expect.

He is a physician of very extensive practice. His house is daily beset by patients, anxious to avail themselves of his professional attainments. His annual receipts are said to average nearly £4000. In one month, we are informed, he received in fees £1100!

By his advice considerable relief was afforded to his late majesty; but alas! no human efforts, however well directed, could snatch him from the grasp of the last enemy. The court, however, placed much confidence in Dr. Chambers's judgment and medical skill. We understand that it was Sir H. Halford who suggested Dr. Chambers's name to his majesty, and expressed a wish that he should be consulted. "Well," said the King, "I place every confidence in your knowledge, Sir Henry; do just what you think is for the best, and I will trust to God, who is ever kind and merciful."

Sir Henry dreaded no rival near the throne: had he been desirous of obtaining an undue ascendancy at court, he would not have expressed a wish to have had the able assistance of Dr. Chambers. But the welfare of his patients is ever uppermost in Sir Henry's heart, as all know who have ever availed themselves of his advice.

Dr. Chambers is physician to the Queen, and lecturer on the practice of physic at St. George's Hospital. He is also connected with the East India

Company, it being his duty to examine all medical candidates who present themselves for admission into the Indian army. His examinations are considered fair, and he is much respected for his kindness and gentlemanly deportment.

Among the distinguished physicians of the day, whom the Queen delighteth to honour, DR. RICHARD BRIGHT occupies a conspicuous place. He was born in Bristol, and is a descendant of one of the oldest and best families in the county of Herts. Having received a sound classical and philosophical education, at the University of Edinburgh, where he matriculated in the year 1808, he commenced the more important studies connected with the profession of his choice, with a mind well prepared to grapple with their difficulties, and seize at once upon those truths which are the best established, and form the safest ground-work for correct practice.

Determined to avail himself of every opportunity to acquire a knowledge of his profession, after laying a good foundation under the direction of those masters in science, Monro, Hope, and Duncan, he resorted to the metropolis, in order to benefit by the advantages which the schools then enjoyed, under the galaxy of talent, comprising, among many other distinguished men, Babington, Curry, Cline, and Cooper. And here it was, within the walls of Guy's Hospital, that his attention was first directed to those pathological enquiries, which subsequently resulted in the enlarged views, and valuable practical observations,

which he has given to the world, in his admirable work on the deranged action of the kidneys, as affecting the cerebral functions.

Not satisfied with a mere knowledge of those branches of science which directly bore upon his profession, his active mind, thirsting for information, delighted in excursions into those collateral sciences, geology, zoology, and botany, which may be considered as the ornamental part of a medical education—without which a man may be a good practitioner, but cannot be an accomplished physician. In these studies Dr. Bright made considerable advances, and gave the results of his inquiries to the world, in a Sketch of the Zoology and Botany of Iceland, and various geological papers communicated to the Geological Society in 1818.

In the year 1813 Dr. Bright graduated at the University of Edinburgh Doctor of Medicine, having read and published his thesis *De Erysipetate Contagioso*: and soon after, in order to extend his knowledge, he visited the principal continental schools, profiting by the knowledge and practical experience of Horn and Hufeland at Berlin, and Hildmbrand, Beer, and Jacquin, at Dresden, and other no less distinguished men in the principal European states through which he travelled.

In December, 1816, being desirous of commencing the practice of his profession in London, he was admitted a licentiate of the College of Physicians; and as a proof of his high reputation, even at this early period of his career, he was elected assistant physician



to the London Fever Hospital, to which, in conjunction with Dr. Bateman, he gave his most anxious attention, and very narrowly escaped falling a sacrifice to his zeal in its behalf, having there contracted a fever which brought him to the verge of the grave.

It is to this circumstance that we are indebted for a most interesting volume of travels; for after his illness, and with a view to his health, he again resorted to the continent, visiting Germany, Italy, Switzerland, and France; and upon his return, published his travels from Vienna, through Hungary, in which are contained some most original and valuable remarks on the state of Vienna during the congress of 1814.

In 1820, Dr. Bright settled down in earnest to devote himself to the practice of his profession; from that time he has advanced in reputation and wealth.

Many instances may be adduced of more rapid advancement in public estimation and wealth—but seldom has it been the lot of licentiates of the College of Physicians, to impress that learned body so early with a conviction of their worth, as in the case of Dr. Bright, who, in the year 1832, received the honour of a fellowship, and with it, the highest testimony which his profession could give to his superior attainments.

Dr. Bright has communicated to the world much of his valuable experience. His report of cases published in 1827 and 1831, are full of matter to interest and instruct the student of morbid anatomy; for in them are to be found, not merely theoretical speculations to amuse the imagination, but a rich vein of

practical information upon most diseases but especially upon those of the kidney and the nervous system.

To Dr. Bright, the reports of Guy's hospital are indebted for many papers which are calculated to render that work highly valuable to the world.

From these observations, it will be seen that this physician has deservedly acquired that eminence in his profession which he has attained, and of which he is now reaping not only a pecuniary reward, but that which must ever be most gratifying to a loyal and enlightened mind, the esteem and confidence of his sovereign.

Dr. Bright is a fellow of the Royal Society, and one of the examiners of the Veterinary College.

DR. J. T. CONQUEST holds a high rank as an accoucheur in the metropolis. He has connected himself with many of the most distinguished of the dissenters, as well as many of the evangelical clergy of the establishment.

Dr. Conquest graduated at the Edinburgh University, in 1812, and has for many years been a distinguished lecturer on midwifery, at St Bartholomew's Hospital.

Dr. Conquest has brought himself into great notoriety, by his having offered a prize of £100 for the best essay on the sin of covetousness; the adjudicators were, Dr. Pye Smith, and the Rev. Baptist Noel, of St. John's Chapel.

A vast number of competitors came forward: distinguished laymen, dissenters, and clergymen of the

establishment, vied each other in contending for Dr. Conquest's prize. It was awarded to the Rev. J. Harris, a dissenting minister, of Epsom, who published his essay under the title of "Mammon." This work has had a most extensive sale, having reached twenty-six editions.

Dr. Conquest is descended from a good family. In early life he devoted himself passionately to the study of his profession. It is said that the circumstance of his having been called in, rather unexpectedly, to attend a lady of rank in her confinement, induced him to devote his mind to the practice of this branch of the science of medicine.

We believe he is universally admired for his kind attention to his patients, as well as for his skill in the treatment of the various difficult cases which come under his consideration.

Dr. Conquest is author of an excellent Manual of Midwifery, which is extensively circulated among medical students and junior practitioners. It is a condensation of everything that is known in this department of practical medicine. He has also contributed several valuable communications to the medical periodicals of the day; which demonstrate that he is a man not only well informed in his profession, but also in possession of a large amount of knowledge in the auxiliary branches of science.

DR. THOMAS DAVIES established himself originally as a general practitioner, in the city. After practising for some years in this capacity, he married a lady of



considerable property, on which he determined to graduate as a physician. He visited Paris, where he remained some years, studying under the most distinguished of the Parisian medical faculty. He paid, during his residence abroad, considerable attention to the diseases of the thoracic viscera; and to make himself perfect in the application of the stethoscope, he cultivated the friendship of the celebrated Laennec, and derived much benefit and valuable knowledge from his instructions.

Upon his return to England, he became a licentiate of the London College of Physicians, and commenced practice in Broad Street, city. Having paid much attention to the nature and treatment of pulmonary and heart affections, he opened a class in his own private house, and commenced a course of lectures illustrative of these diseases. This class was numerously attended, and the lectures were considered of the greatest practical value. In a few years he was elected assistant physician to the London Hospital, and lecturer on the practice of physic, which situation he now fills with credit to himself, and advantage to the institution with which he is connected.

Having devoted much time to the study of heart and lung diseases, Dr. Davies has the reputation of being skilful in detecting the presence of, and treating successfully, these maladies.

In the year 1837, he published in the Medical Gazette a series of lectures, delivered at the London Hospital, on the diseases of the chest, which are con-

sidered by the profession to exhibit much diligent and praiseworthy research, and knowledge of the subject. The doctor has since published them in a separate volume.

Dr. Davies is considered peculiarly happy in detecting, by the aid of auscultation, the incipient advances of pulmonary affections. In the case of Dr. Armstrong, how accurate was his diagnosis!

Dr. Davies's mind is not formed in a strongly imaginative mould. He has ambition, but not to an unreasonable degree. How true it is that one great source of the misery we often see in the medical profession, arises from our indulging too sanguine hopes of enjoyment from the blessings we expect, and too much indifference for those within our grasp. Young says,

“The present moment, like a wife, we shun ;  
And ne'er enjoy, because it is our own.”

This cannot be laid to the charge of the physician who forms the subject of this sketch. His ambition is gratified if he has it in his power to relieve the sufferings of his fellow men; to him, the recollection of having been of service to others conveys a feeling which only Shakespeare can express: “It comes over the heart, as soft music does over the ear:

——— “Like the sweet south  
That breathes upon a bank of violets.”\*

\* Since our sketch of this eminent physician was written he has paid the last debt of nature, and is now numbered among the dead. He died of an affection of the heart, complicated with disease of the lungs. It was a common expression of his, whenever

DR. GRANVILLE holds a high rank as a physician-accoucheur. He is, we believe, a native of Milan. He began his studies in Pavia, at the university, at the age of sixteen, where he remained until he was twenty years of age. A year or fifteen months afterwards he left the university of Pavia, and travelled as physician to Mr. Hamilton, the late under secretary of state, through Greece and Turkey. He resided two years at Constantinople, and visited Egypt and Asia. Upon coming to London, he attended the Westminster Hospital under Dr. Bradley, Dr. Paris, Sir A. Carlisle, and Mr. Lynn. After graduating in surgery, he entered the navy, to which he was attached from 1807 to 1812, when he retired on surgeon's half-pay.

In 1805, he went to Malaga, in Spain, and practised there for thirteen months; he then went to Madrid, and from this place he embarked as surgeon on board the Raven sloop of war. At the peace, in 1815, he retired from the navy, and commenced practice in Charles-street, Grosvenor-square. He remained in this house until 1816, when he removed, at the desire of Sir Walter Farquhar, to Paris, where he resided nearly two years, and returned to England in 1817. Dr. Granville graduated in medicine in 1801.

he saw a patient depressed in spirits, "Keep up your spirits, remember, keep up your spirits;" and it is singular that during the last few months of his existence, no man suffered more than he did from a depressed state of mind. In the death of Dr. Davies, the profession has lost a valuable member, and a large family a kind and affectionate parent.



This physician is well known as the author of many highly popular works. Having visited St. Petersburg as physician to a lady of rank, he published, on his return home, an account of his travels through the Russian Empire. He has taken a very active part in the question of the contagiousness of the plague, advocating with great zeal its non-contagious character. He was examined before the parliamentary committee on this subject, and has conveyed to the public his views of the question in the shape of a pamphlet. Besides his medical works, Dr. Granville has recently published a book, entitled, "The Spas of Germany," which not only has been spoken highly of, but has considerably enlarged his practice. The doctor has also extensive practice as an accoucheur. He was examined on the question of protracted utero gestation in the celebrated Gardner case, and much surprise was produced by his having cited his wife's case, in illustration of his own peculiar views.

Dr. Granville attends, professionally, the Italian Opera company. In personal appearance he resembles a foreigner. He is passionately fond of music, hardly ever omitting to be present at her majesty's theatre during the season.

It is said "that some men are born to greatness, some achieve greatness, and others have greatness thrust upon them." We shall rank Dr. J. HOPE, the subject of this sketch, among those who by great application to the study of their profession, have obtained an elevated position in the ranks of society.

In early life he showed a disposition to study medicine, which being perceived by a kind and indulgent parent, it was settled that he should go to Edinburgh, and there graduate in physic. No expense was spared in his general and medical education. Having been well grounded in classical literature, and the knowledge generally acquired at schools, he was sent to the University of Edinburgh, where he placed himself under the tuition of the first physicians and surgeons in that place. He made rapid progress in his studies, and was distinguished for his great diligence and application to every subject to which his mind was directed. Dr. Hope took a prominent part in the discussions at the Edinburgh medical, as well as at the Speculative society, which ranked among its members all the most eminent of the literati of that city.

Dr. Hope, after his return to London, commenced practice. It is said that the circumstance of a near and dear relative having been afflicted with disease of the heart, induced the doctor to devote his attention principally to the affections of this important organ. His work on the diseases of the heart and the large vessels, has brought him into much notice and practice. He has been engaged in a series of physiological experiments on the sounds of the heart, the result of which he has detailed in the works before mentioned, as well as in some papers published in the "London Medical Gazette." Dr. Hope is termed familiarly, the "Heart Doctor," as nearly nine out of every twelve patients who consult him, labour, or fancy they do, under disease of this organ. He is

considered very skilful in his diagnostic powers. He is bold and successful in his practice; his manners are extremely pleasing, and his appearance gentlemanly.

DR. MERRIMAN is one of the eminent physicians who devote their talents to the practice of the obstetric art. He is the nephew of a physician, long celebrated for his skill in the same department of practice.

Dr. Merriman's father is well known as the author of several tracts on political economy, and was largely concerned in a brewery. His mother was the niece of that upright judge, Sir Michael Foster.

Dr. Merriman was born at Marlborough, and began his education at a free school at that place; but, losing his father at an early age, he was taken into the house of his uncle, who assiduously directed him in his medical studies. No pains nor expense was spared in making him thoroughly conversant with every department of the science which it was his intention to practise. He studied under the first masters of the day. Great attention was paid to his anatomical instruction.

Some time after having entered the profession, his cousin, who was engaged in the practice of pharmacy and midwifery, being suddenly attacked with severe illness, Merriman was called upon to undertake the management of the business; and on the death of his relation, in 1800, he continued it on his own account. About this period, he married his uncle's daughter and in 1807, he gave up his business as an apothecary to follow the practice of midwifery exclusively. Having, under circumstances highly honourable to



himself, procured a diploma, he became a candidate for the vacant office of physician-accoucheur to the Westminster General Dispensary ; and after a sharp contest with Dr. Clough, he succeeded in obtaining the appointment. In 1809, he was unanimously elected physician-accoucheur to the Middlesex Hospital ; and in 1812, he commenced his course of lectures on the theory and practice of midwifery.

Dr. Merriman's work on "Difficult Parturition," is well known and read, wherever midwifery is practised as a science. It is an able production, and is considered a standard authority with medical men.

DR. THOMAS ELLIOTSON is a living instance of a physician who, in a great measure, owes his reputation and present position in the medical world, to the publication of his lectures in the *Lancet*.

Do not let it be supposed that we wish for one moment to detract from the intrinsic abilities of Dr. Elliotson, or wish the public to believe, that without the co-operation of Mr. Wakley's *Medical Journal*, the doctor could not have risen to his present rank in the medical profession. This is far from our intention. We are convinced, from our knowledge of the talents and character of Dr. Elliotson, that he would have attained high eminence as a practical physician, had no such publication as the *Lancet* been in existence.

In the introductory lecture, delivered by the doctor preparatory to a course of lectures on the practice of medicine, at the University College, he has made some allusions to the early difficulties with which he

had to contend. He says, "I rejoice in this public opportunity of declaring, that to the general practitioners of England, Scotland, and Ireland, I am indebted for my professional success. When I commenced my professional career, I determined upon trusting for success to working hard, and to conduct myself as well as the infirmity of human nature would allow. I determined, however long I might wait for success, never to fawn upon and run after my superiors, nor to stoop meanly to my inferiors; never to intrigue for an advantage, nor to employ trumpery artifices for making myself known to the public.

"For many years I toiled, and saw many of my contemporaries, many of my juniors, who worked less but were wiser in their generation, pass by me. I published work after work, edition after edition, and paper after paper was honoured with a place in the *transactions* of the first medical society in Europe: I was physician to a large Metropolitan Hospital and had attended there, and gratuitously out of doors, above 20,000 patients. But in vain. In 1828, my profession was not more lucrative to me, and was as short of my actual expenses as it had been in 1818. At that time, the "Lancet" was pleased, now and then, to publish a clinical lecture delivered by me at St. Thomas's, and my practice at once doubled. The following year it published the greater part as I delivered them, and my practice doubled again. Last season, the same journal published them all, and my practice was doubled a third time. This astonished me the more, as my clinical lectures were generally

delivered with little or no premeditation, while, all I published myself, had cost me great labour, many a head-ache, and much midnight oil. It was through the general practitioners, in the large majority of instances—and through general practitioners, for the most part, with whom I had not the honour of any acquaintance—that the publication of these lectures accomplished my success. To the body of general practitioners, therefore, I owe a debt of gratitude. They have called me forth spontaneously, from no interested motive, and I cannot exert myself too much in the education of their successors.”

Dr. Elliotson is the son of a chemist and druggist. His father is a man of great respectability, and is much esteemed. The doctor was born in the county of Surrey; and, as he was intended for the medical profession, his father determined that he should have the best education that money could procure. In early life he manifested great powers of observation, and a passionate fondness for study. His father being a chemist, his mind had an early tendency towards the study of medicine.

When he was at the age of fifteen, a conversation took place after dinner at his father's house, respecting the future prospects of the professor. One friend suggested the army, another the navy, and a third the church; and on young Elliotson being asked what profession he would study, he exclaimed, with great animation, “I'll be a physician, and ride in my carriage.” A physician accordingly it was determined he should be.



Great attention being paid to his classical education, under the tuition of a gentleman of great attainments, he rapidly advanced in classical knowledge.

Even at an early age Elliotson exhibited a kind and humane disposition, always first to give relief in cases of distress, and ready to give a helping hand to a poor friend, who stood in need of assistance. Many anecdotes are recorded, which illustrate his benevolent turn of mind.

At the age of sixteen, he was sent to see a family who were represented to be in very great distress. He appeared much affected at what he saw, and raised, among his friends and family, a sufficient sum of money to afford them immediate relief.

Some months afterwards, it was accidentally made known, that Elliotson had, without the knowledge of his family, placed the eldest son of the family alluded to at school in his neighbourhood, and paid all his expenses out of the little pocket-money which his father allowed him.

This is but one of the many facts which we could adduce of the worthy professor's kindness of heart. It is said, what the boy is so will the man be. The truth of this axiom is fully established in the present case. All who have the honour of being on terms of intimacy with the subject of our memoir, will bear us out in the observations we have made.

After having been under the care of a private tutor for some years, Elliotson was sent to Edinburgh; to study for his degree of M.D. His advancement in

medical knowledge was unusually rapid for a youth of his age. He was most assiduously attentive to his studies. "He evinced," says a biographer, "an ardent temperament in persevering in the acquirement of knowledge, keen in the discrimination of truth, and exercised a philosophic firmness in the estimation of scientific evidence, rigidly rejecting that which was insufficient and fallacious, and unhesitatingly adopting facts alone."

Acting upon this principle, Elliotson progressed amazingly in medical knowledge. He was, on account of his steadiness and devotion to his profession, alike admired by the professors under whom he studied, and by his fellow-pupils. He was never known, except in one instance, and that, when he was labouring under an attack of indisposition, to absent himself from the lecture room. He was sure to be found at his post in all weathers, and under all circumstances. He took an active part in a medical society, which at that time existed at Edinburgh, and which was attended principally by the medical and surgical pupils of the university.

Although not a fluent speaker, and being naturally diffident, he did not, nor was he calculated to shine as an orator; but whenever he spoke he was listened to with profound attention; and whatever observation he made was full of useful, because practical, information. All through life, Elliotson has evinced as a peeculiar mental trait, a practical turn of mind; and this has been one secret of his success as a practitioner.

During his sojourn at the University of Edinburgh, Elliotson cultivated a knowledge of the German language, and was fond of the study of comparative anatomy, from a notion that it would throw considerable light on the obscure points connected with human physiology. In fact, physiology was always his favourite study, as is evinced by his excellent translation of Blumenbach's celebrated work.

After graduating at Edinburgh, he went abroad, for the purpose of visiting all the celebrated continental medical schools; and after remaining some time in France and Germany, he returned to his native country. It was at this period (1810) that he entered his name as a fellow-commoner at Cambridge.

Upon his return to London, the doctor entered himself as a pupil at Guy's Hospital, determining to avail himself of every opportunity of becoming a thorough master of every branch of his profession.

In 1816, Dr. Turner resigned the office of physician to St. Thomas's Hospital, and was succeeded by Dr. Currie, according to the usual custom that the assistant physicians should become, in turn, physicians to the establishment.

For the vacancy of assistant physician, made by this change, there were two candidates, viz: Drs. Elliotson and Williams: the latter was elected to the office.

In the following year, two more vacancies occurred; one owing to the death of Dr. Wells, and the other from the resignation of Dr. Lister, on account of circumstances which it is not necessary here to explain, to which Drs. Williams and Scott were appointed,



and Dr. Elliotson received the appointment of assistant physician.

In 1823 Dr. Currie died, and Dr. Elliotson offered himself as a candidate. Dr. Roots, and subsequently Dr. Spugin, came forward to oppose him, but they soon retired from the field. Great interest was made to secure the election of Elliotson to the vacant office, which he eventually obtained.

Some months after Dr. Elliotson's appointment he was anxious to obtain a lectureship, and he made application to be allowed to lecture on Forensic Medicine at St. Thomas's Hospital: this request was, owing to circumstances of which he knew nothing, refused. Subsequently, overtures were made to Mr. Granger, who permitted the doctor to deliver a series of lectures on *materia medica*; Dr. Armstrong lecturing, at the same school, on the practice of physic.

On the death of Dr. Currie, Elliotson became a candidate for the office of physician to St. Thomas's hospital. His appointment, it is said, met with considerable opposition; and it was only after being compelled to sign a paper, declaring that he would not lecture in or out of the walls of the hospital, that he was nominated as Dr. Currie's successor. Dr. Elliotson had filled the office of assistant physician for five years; he had been unremitting in his exertions to carry out, to its fullest extent, the wishes of the benevolent founders of the institution with which he was connected; and his conduct to the patients and the senior medical officers, had given great satisfaction. Shortly after his appointment, the agreement referred

to, was cancelled, and Dr. Elliotson had full permission to lecture when and wherever he thought fit.

The first lectures which Elliotson delivered within the walls of the hospital, were of a clinical nature. These were published in the *Lancet*; and to their publication the doctor attributes all his success in life.

These lectures attracted considerable attention at the time when they were first delivered, not only on account of the lecturer's novel views of the treatment of disease, but mainly owing to the sound practical observations with which they were replete.

Dr. Elliotson has the credit of being the first physician who pointed out the medicinal virtues of hydrocyanic acid, in cases of irritability of the stomach, not dependent upon inflammation. It is indeed highly beneficial in such cases. He also recommended its use in cases of dyspepsia and consumption; but its efficacy in these maladies has not been so satisfactorily established. It is certainly useful in cases of gastric irritation, accompanying an attack of indigestion, and is a valuable medical agent in allaying the irritable cough which often attends consumption.

Dr. Elliotson has also established the propriety of administering the sulphate of *quinine*, in much larger doses than any other practitioner ever previously ventured to exhibit it.

Majendie laid it down as a rule that it was not safe to give more than ten grains of the sulphate in twenty-four hours; but we have seen Dr. Elliotson administer drachm doses of the medicine in cases of intermittent fever, with the most beneficial results.

The peculiar and almost specific virtue of the carbonate of iron, in cases of St. Vitus's dance (chorea), was first demonstrated by Dr. Elliotson. He, in such cases, exhibits the iron in what is termed "heroic" doses, and with great success.

To the same physician are we indebted for many other useful additions to the science of medicine.

Dr. Elliotson pointed out the efficacy of the hydriodate of potash in many cases, for the removal of which it had never been given previously. He also established the virtues of the sulphate of copper, in combination with opium, in cases of chronic diarrhœa. Dr. Sutton, of Greenwich, however, is said to have been the first physician who directed the attention of the profession to the peculiar efficacy of this medicine in such cases.

Dr. Elliotson has paid considerable attention to the application of the stethoscope in affections of the heart and lungs; and has laid down some valuable rules for the use of the instrument under such circumstances. He pointed out to the profession the varying effects of posture during auscultation of the bellows-sound of the heart; also the fact of a great difference existing between the sound of the same phenomenon, when listened to at different parts of the chest; the advantage of removing the plug of the stethoscope when examining the sounds of the heart, which the removal materially magnifies; the importance in auscultation of the sounds of the heart, of making patients retain their breath, that the sounds of respiration may not be mistaken for the diseased sounds of the heart—a precaution not before recognized; the circumstance



that the bellows-sound is occasionally a cooing sound, and varies in tone at different periods in the same patient; the occurrence of a metallic tinkling in the stomach, similar to that in the chest, from great distention of the stomach with wind; the occasional existence of the same sound in the healthy side of the chest, from the pushing of the lung over to that side by the progress of the disease, and the occurrence of metallic tinkling after death.

When Baron Dupotet arrived in this country from Paris, for the purpose of performing his experiments in animal magnetism, he invited the most celebrated members of the English faculty to visit his house, in order to witness the extraordinary effect of this powerful agent, and to judge for themselves as to the absence of collusion between himself and the patients submitted to the magnetic influence. Dr. Elliotson was accordingly requested to attend—he did so, and appeared astonished at what he saw. He was not, however, satisfied with the result of the baron's experiments, and he accordingly resolved to ascertain whether he could produce the same phenomena. The effect was as astonishing as it was satisfactory to the doctor's mind. He perfectly succeeded in exciting magnetic sleep, and all the wonderful results attributed to this agent. A new field of inquiry was opened to his mind, and he pursued the subject, in all its ramifications, with great zeal and perseverance. He magnetized several patients admitted into the North London Hospital; and in the presence of a number of scientific gentlemen, he exhi-

bited the extraordinary effects of his manipulations. Several patients who were labouring under epilepsy, were submitted to the operation, and with considerable apparent benefit. In the performance of his experiments, Dr. Elliotson met with much opposition from his colleagues. Every thing which ingenuity could suggest was adopted to induce him to abandon the subject, and to throw ridicule upon it, but without having any effect on the doctor's mind. The scenes enacted in the hospital were of the most extraordinary character. One girl was allowed, whilst under the influence of magnetism, to visit the wards, in order to exercise her prophetic powers as to the probable death or recovery of the patients labouring under serious ailments. On approaching one patient's bed, she began to exhibit indications of excitement, and exclaimed, "I see great Jackey there," pointing to the patient. On approaching another bed, she said, "I see little Jackey there." We ought, however, to state, that this was done without Dr. Elliotson's sanction or knowledge. Application was made to Dr. E. by the medical committee or council, to discontinue his experiments at the hospital, as they thought the course he adopted would be injurious to the institution. He, however, declined complying with their request; and hearing that it was the intention of his opponents to pass some strong resolution on the subject, he sent in his resignation as physician to the hospital, and as lecturer on the practise of physic to the university school.

We do not come forward to justify the course which

Dr. Elliotson, or the council of the university, adopted. Both are liable to many objections. Having witnessed with his own eyes the extraordinary results of animal magnetism, he was but acting, as a lover of truth, in investigating for himself this so-called powerful agent. It is much to be regretted that he was under the necessity of resigning the appointment which he so honourably and usefully filled. We feel assured that his loss has been deeply felt; and no circumstance would afford us more pleasure than his being recalled to the university.

Dr. Elliotson's letter to the students of the college, explanatory of the facts relating to his resignation, is an able and manly production. The loss, in a pecuniary point of view, was not felt by the doctor, as he is possessed of a fortune sufficiently ample to enable him, if required, to dispense with all professional emoluments.

In our sketch of this eminent physician, we must not omit to allude to his able contributions on the subject of phrenology, scattered through the scientific periodicals of the day. He has been for some years president of the Phrenological Society, and he is considered to be one of the most able and successful defenders of the science existing in this country.\*

\* One of the most masterly pamphlets which have appeared *against* phrenology, was published some years ago in Edinburgh, written by *Dr. Thomas Stone*, an able physician, now established and engaged in London practice. This was considered the most vital blow which phrenology ever received, and excited no little commotion among its supporters.



Dr. Elliotson's personal appearance is very prepossessing. His fine, high, and expansive forehead denotes a mind which thinks for itself, and scorns to be tied down to the dogmas of any body of men who do not consider truth to be the ultimate and only legitimate object of all scientific research. His perfect independence of character has injured him in the reputation of some, but has elevated him in the minds of those whose opinions are alone deserving of respect and attention.

Dr. Elliotson is still pursuing his magnetic researches. He has public exhibitions twice a week at his private residence, to which visitors are admitted by ticket. We understand that crowds of people attend these meetings, and that many who "go to scoff," return firmly persuaded of the existence of such an agent as that of animal magnetism.

DR. JAMES COPELAND, the author of the well-known "Dictionary of Practical Medicine," was originally intended for the church. He was born in 1791, in the Orkney Islands, where his family resided many years, highly respected by all who knew them. Dr. Copeland, preparatory to his commencing the study of medicine, under the able instructions of Professors Stewart, Leslie, Playfair, Brown, and Ritchie, made considerable advancement in those various branches of education to which most young men devote some years prior to commencing the study, of the profession, to the practice of which they intend to devote themselves. A taste for mathematical and

metaphysical speculations had a most beneficial tendency in expanding and disciplining Dr. Copeland's mind; thus fitting it for the investigation of the difficult and comprehensive science, which, in after life, he was destined to advance by his great talents.

Under the tuition of the able men connected with the Edinburgh university, Dr. C. made rapid progress. He engaged in the study of medicine with a devotedness and zeal well deserving of imitation.

After graduating he came to London, in the year 1815, for the purpose of studying surgery. In the great metropolis he remained for nearly two years. Not having the advantage of being known to a connexion that could be of service to him in his profession, he obtained but little of public support and patronage. Being fond of an active life, and being young in years, and full of life and spirits, he resolved to visit distant climes, and see something of the world before he finally settled himself in London practice. Having obtained the offer of a medical appointment, he set sail for the purpose of visiting the settlements on the Gold Coast, belonging to the late African company. After remaining on the coast of Africa for some years, where he was exposed to many perils by sea and land, he returned to England. He afterwards travelled through France, Germany, and Italy, visiting the different continental schools, and improving his mind by observing the practice of the most celebrated medical men connected with the foreign hospitals. Having accumulated a vast store of knowledge, he returned to his native land, became a licentiate of

the London College of Physicians, took a house at Walworth, and commenced practising as a physician.

Dr. Copeland takes a high rank among our literary physicians. In early life he manifested a desire to distinguish himself among the medical literati in England; and for this purpose commenced a valuable series of papers in the "Quarterly Journal of Foreign Medicine," which were much noticed, and spoken highly of at the time.

There are only two modes which a London physician can legitimately adopt to bring himself into notice. If he has not the advantages of connexion, and if he has no friend at court to take him by the hand, he has no other way of bringing his name before the public, and calling its attention to his professional abilities, than by writing a book.

A young physician, commencing practice in London without friends to assist him, and dependent for support upon his professional exertions, unless he do something to make himself known, must starve, or abandon his profession.

A taste for literature is necessarily excited in those brought up at our medical universities, and intended for the practice of physic; and when a young physician finally resolves to enter upon the arduous practice of his profession, and perceives that patients' visits are, like those of angels, "few, and far between," he, having so much of his time unemployed, naturally turns his attention to writing, and becomes often an author in spite of all his resolutions to the contrary.

This was the case with Dr. Copeland. His mind



being constitutionally active and enterprising, he felt that he must be employed, if not in the actual treatment of disease, in investigations connected with the branches of his profession; at the same time feeling an honourable and laudable ambition, that the public would regard with approbation his efforts, however humble, to improve the practice of medicine. Fortunately for Dr. Copeland he exercised a sound judgment in his selection of subjects. Mere theoretical abstract medical speculation, may succeed in making a physician known to the reading and reviewing portion of the profession, but will be but of little service to him in enlarging his sphere of practice. One work on a practical question, on some common disease, will more effectually promote the interests of a medical man, than if he were known to be the author of the most elaborate and scientific production of the day. A small pamphlet on the treatment of gout, croup, or measles, will bring a physician more patients, than if he were to publish a treatise full of most important abstract truths, which do not admit of a practical application to the alleviation of human suffering. The physician who writes for fame, and from a desire of enlarging the boundaries of his profession, and the man who writes for patients, are totally distinct in their nature, and yet each may succeed in promoting the advancement of science. To have a personal object in view in writing, does not detract from the merits of the work which a man may usher into existence.

It is not our intention to enter into a minute detail

of the literary and professional works which have issued from Dr. Copeland's pen. In his edition of Richerand's celebrated "Elements of Physiology," the doctor has exhibited a profound knowledge of this important and difficult branch of medical science. His notes and illustrations are, indeed, most valuable additions to the original work.

For many years he edited the "Medical Repository," and contributed to its pages many valuable papers connected with the principles and practice of his profession.

After practising for some time at Walworth, Dr. Copeland removed to Jermyn-Street; and, in 1823, through the influence of the Duke of Sussex, he was elected Consulting Physician to Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital. He was recommended to this situation by Mr. Pettigrew, who states that his knowledge of Dr. C., at that time, was derived chiefly from his writings.

In 1830, Messrs. Longman and Co. suggested to Dr. C. the compilation of a "Dictionary of Practical Medicine;" and, although he had to compete with the able editors of, and contributors to, the "Encyclopedia of Practical Medicine," he, nothing daunted, resolved to enter single-handed into the field, and the result has realized the most sanguine anticipations of his friends.

This work is a monument of human industry and research, and will redound to the immortal honour of its illustrious parent.

Dr. HENRY DAVIES, of Saville Row, ranks high as a physician-accoucheur. He was originally an army surgeon, and was stationed for some years in Bermuda, where he obtained great celebrity, in consequence of the dexterity and skill which he exhibited in the performance of several complicated operations, requiring great nerve and minute anatomical and surgical knowledge. Dr. Davies commenced as a practitioner in London, in the year 1815. He studied under the first professional men in Edinburgh, London, and Paris. He is a Licentiate of the London College of Physicians.

A few years back he delivered, in conjunction with Mr. Stone, a course of lectures on midwifery, and the diseases of women and children, to a large and highly respectable class, in a school either attached to or adjoining St. George's Hospital. Dr. Davies generally read his lectures, which were admitted by all who heard them to be replete with most valuable facts and important principles. Mr. Stone, Sir C. M. Clarke's nephew, usually delivered the anatomical and surgical portion of the lectures, and Dr. H. Davies, the medical and practical part, including the management of natural and difficult parturition, and the diseases of women and children.

Dr. Davies's manners are very prepossessing, and he is well calculated to please in the branch of practice to which he nearly devotes his exclusive attention. He is also considered very successful in the treatment of the diseases of children.



Independently of Dr. Davies having published some highly valuable articles in the various medical journals, he has not yet made his *debüt* as an author. We hope however that he will, at no distant period, give to the public the result of his long experience.

Dr. Davies is connected as physician, in conjunction with Dr. Lee, to the British Lying-in-Hospital, Brownlow-Street, Long Acre. This institution was founded in the year 1749.

When a medical man ceases to be a *student*, he is no longer qualified to discharge the important duties of his profession. This is the opinion of the physician whose name we now introduce to the notice of our readers. DR. ANTHONY TODD THOMPSON, although much advanced in years, is a most indefatigable student. We understand he makes a practise of rising every morning by five, lights his own fire in the winter, and many hours before any other members of the family make their appearance, he is buried in his books and papers. This has been his practice for many years, and the consequence is, that his mind is richly stored with most valuable knowledge. He is connected with the North London Hospital, and University College. In the latter, he lectures on *materia medica*, and medical jurisprudence. His work on the former subject is considered the most elaborate treatise that we have, with the exception of that recently published by Mr. Periera, which does great credit to his talents and industry.

Dr. Thompson's first course of lectures on medical

jurisprudence were given in conjunction with Mr. Amos, a barrister, who delivered the legal portion. They were published in the "London Medical Gazette." Dr. Thompson is considered a shrewd and clever physician; his practice at the hospital is much liked by his students. He is very fond of administering the different preparations of iodine, iron, and gold, which in certain cases he exhibits with great success. In appearance he is rather tall; his features are harsh, but we believe he is kind and humane in his disposition. He attends the Westminster Medical Society regularly, where he often speaks, and is listened to with great attention and respect. He offered resolute opposition to Dr. Elliotson's opinions on animal magnetism; and we believe he was mainly instrumental in inducing the medical committee to oppose the introduction of the practice into the hospital.

SIR JAMES M'GRIGOR is director-general, and principal medical officer of the British army. He served under the Duke of Wellington, and greatly distinguished himself by his uniform kindness, humanity, gentlemanly conduct, and eminent medical skill. His father was a most respectable merchant at Aberdeen. After Sir James had graduated at Edinburgh, he was appointed surgeon to the 88th regiment of foot. In 1800 his regiment was stationed in India. An expedition was preparing for the conquest of Batavia and Manilla, the command of which was given to Colonel Wellesley, now the Duke of Wellington. Mr. M'grigor was appointed chief

of the medical staff; and the expedition had commenced its march and reached Ceylon, when the invasion of Buonaparte, and the apprehended danger of India, if he should succeed in establishing the French in that region, induced the king and the East India directors to resolve upon an expedition to that country. The Batavian expedition was accordingly recalled, the command of it transferred to Sir David Baird, and, upon its arrival, directed to Egypt. Mr. M'grigor accompanied the army to Egypt, and published an excellent treatise upon the diseases of that country. His account of the mode of treating the plague, the ophthalmia, and the eruptive disease of the skin peculiar to that climate, is such as to confer great honour upon his skill and talents.

It is not our purpose to trace Sir James M'grigor's brilliant professional career; suffice it to say that he distinguished himself wherever he was situated, and gained the praise and affection of all who knew him, and were able to estimate his many private and public virtues.

Sir James accompanied the unfortunate Walcheren expedition. Everything that medical skill and humanity could suggest, was done by this distinguished physician, to ameliorate the melancholy condition of the troops. Sir James most strenuously advised that the whole of the sick should be instantly reconveyed to their native land; and he drew up such an account of the endemic nature of the disease, and of the fatality of the corrupted marshes of Walcheren, as determined government to withdraw the whole army from that infected region.



Sir James followed the illustrious hero of Waterloo in his campaigns in Spain and Portugal; and greatly distinguished himself upon the occasion of the siege and capture of Badajoz; so that he was publicly *gazetted*, as having rendered the most distinguished service to the army and the country. He was also at the battle of Salamanca, where he paid the most unwearied attention to the wounded, and won the approbation of the illustrious commander-in-chief. So highly were Sir James M'grigor's services appreciated by the physicians, surgeons, &c. who served with him in Portugal, Spain, Egypt, and Holland, that a subscription was entered into, and a service of plate of the value of *one thousand guineas* was presented to him, accompanied by an address of a highly complimentary character.

In 1810 Sir James married Miss Grant, a lady of a most respectable family, at Forres, in Scotland, a distant connexion of his family.

In the intercourse of private life, no man can be more esteemed than the subject of this sketch. His uniform kindness, professional and gentlemanly deportment to the medical men connected with the army, cannot be too highly lauded.

DR. MARSHALL HALL has distinguished himself for his scientific researches in various departments of medical science, as well as for his practical skill in the treatment of disease. He originally practised as a surgeon, and afterwards as a physician at Nottingham, where he met with great success, and was much

esteemed by those who availed themselves of his advice, as well as by his medical brethren. Being ambitious of attaining a high rank as a physician, he came to the metropolis. His fame had, however, preceded him. Having written several able works on practical medicine, and having contributed to the different medical journals, his reputation was in a great measure established, and consequently his success might reasonably have been predicated. He had, notwithstanding, many obstacles to contend with. The public being already prejudiced in favour of the eminent physicians engaged in practice, it was no easy thing to supplant them. Dr. Hall's treatise on "Loss of Blood," was of much service to him, and brought him many patients. His views are ingenious and important, particularly those relating to the possibility of symptoms resembling acute disease of the brain, being produced by too great depletion, and requiring the exhibition of stimulating instead of depletory remedies. His work on female diseases does him great credit, as well as his able dissertation on "Diagnosis." His discoveries connected with the nervous system are also of great importance; but in a work like the present we can do no more than allude to them.

Dr. Hall is connected with a religious body who dissent from the establishment, and who also stand aloof from the great body of dissenters in this country. He is president of Sydenham College, an institution founded by himself, where he lectures on the theory and practice of medicine.

An ancient pagan writer has observed, "That the spectacle of a virtuous man struggling with misfortune is one which the gods themselves contemplate with intense interest." We can conceive nothing more calculated to call forth the highest regard and admiration, than the sight of a man of commanding talent emerging from an obscure situation—defying and dispelling the influence of circumstances which threaten to confine him there—compensating by sagacity for the want of wealth and education—and leaving far behind the competition of those, who, with less merit, possess much higher external advantages. It is the unassisted nature of his efforts, and the consequent inequality of the contest in which he is engaged, which attracts our interests so irresistibly to such an individual: we observe his fluctuating fortune with solicitude, and we give him our cheerful applause, when he at length has shown himself "master of his fate," and assumed the station to which his talents and industry entitle him. With these observations we introduce to our readers Dr. MICHAEL FARADAY, whose history is thus recorded:—"Mr. Edward Magrath, now secretary to the Athenæum, happened, five-and-twenty years ago, to enter the shop of Mr. Ribeau, when he observed one of the young men zealously studying a book which he ought to have been binding. On examining the work, he found it to be a volume of the old Encyclopædia Britannica, open at 'Electricity.' Having entered into conversation with the journeyman, he discovered him to be a man of high intellectual at-



tainments, and a self-taught chemist of no mean acquirements. He presented him with tickets for Sir H. Davy's lectures at the Royal Institution; and daily thereafter might the nondescript be seen perched, pen in hand, with his eyes starting out of his head, just over the clock opposite the chair. At last the course terminated; but Faraday's spirit had received a new impulse, which nothing but dire necessity could have restrained, and from that he was saved by the promptitude with which—on his forwarding a modest outline of his history, with the notes he had made of these lectures, to Sir H. Davy—that great and good man rushed to the rescue of a kindred genius. Sir H. Davy immediately appointed him an assistant in the laboratory, and after two or three years, he found Faraday qualified to act as his secretary." The steps of his subsequent progress are well known.

Whilst travelling over the continent with Sir H. and lady Davy, a curious incident is related to have happened on their arrival at Morlaix, in Brittany, to which place they had proceeded from Plymouth: Sir H. Davy, his lady, and Michael Faraday, were all placed under arrest, immediately on their arrival. It must be recollected that at this period (1813) France was waging a bitter war with this country; and notwithstanding application had been made to Napoleon, by several of the most distinguished of our nobility, for permission to travel on the continent, and which had been refused, when Sir Humphry Davy expressed a wish to visit the volcanoes of Auvergne,

the Emperor, to his immortal credit, immediately granted him permission; thus showing to the world that although he was apparently absorbed in his war-like pursuits, he had a more noble ambition to promote the advancement of science.

When they arrived at Morlaix the whole party were arrested, in consequence of some informality in their passports, and were confined, much to their annoyance, for six or seven days.

It was during this visit to France that Davy devoted his mind to the investigation of the subject of iodine, which had so much puzzled the French chemists—Michael Faraday rendering him valuable assistance in his investigations.

Upon his return to this country in 1815, Faraday continued the study of his darling science. It was not long before he was enabled to make some discoveries which attracted the attention of all the eminent men in the scientific world. Among the discoveries he made, the most interesting is certainly that which relates to the condensation of the gases. Prior to the investigations of Faraday, it was the general opinion among chemical philosophers, that the gases were incapable of reduction into any other than what may be called their natural elastic state. There are elastic fluids which, under certain conditions, may be compelled to assume the liquid and even the solid state: this is the case with steam, which is equally known to us as water and as ice. No diminution of temperature, however, could effect a change in the gases; hence they were called the permanently elastic fluids.

By exposing chlorine to a warm temperature, a solid substance is obtained, which before the year 1810 was supposed to be chlorine, in a solid state. Sir H. Davy removed the erroneous impression, proved it to be a hydrate of chlorine, and showed that the gas was not capable of condensation, even at a temperature of 40° F.

In the early part of the year 1823, Faraday, taking advantage of the season, had obtained some crystals of this hydrate of chlorine, and commenced a series of experiments upon it. After he had pursued an extended course of observations, Sir H. Davy appears to have suggested the propriety of examining it in closed tubes, a circumstance which Dr. Paris thinks could not have failed to have struck the experimenter himself.

On the 25th of March, 1823, Dr. Paris was invited to dine at Davy's, but being rather early, he called at the Royal Institution, and found Faraday in the laboratory, experimenting on chlorine and its hydrate, in closed tubes. While he was examining the experiments, he observed an oily looking substance covering the interior of the tube, and referring Faraday to the circumstance, joked with him for using soiled vessels. Faraday looked at the tube, and proceeded to file off the end of it, when the contents exploded, and the oily matter vanished.

Dr. Paris then left the institution, and after dinner informed Davy of what he had seen, who, after a few moments of abstraction, replied, "I shall inquire about this experiment to-morrow."



In the mean time Faraday was continuing his investigations. He found, that by exposing the hydrate, in a tube hermetically sealed, to a temperature of 1008, the substance was fused, and the tube filled with a bright yellow atmosphere. Upon examination, this atmosphere was found to consist of two fluid substances: the one was of a faint yellow colour, filling about three-fourths of the tube; the other a bright heavy fluid, lying at the bottom of the former. The yellow fluid he distilled to one end of the tube, and entirely separated it from the heavier fluid. When he cut the tube in the middle, the parts flew asunder with an explosion, the whole of the yellow portion disappeared, and a powerful atmosphere of chlorine was produced. The pale portion remained in the tube, and was found to be a weak solution of chlorine in water, with a little muriatic acid.

Mr. Faraday was at first unable to account for the phenomenon, but was afterwards led to suppose that the chlorine had been separated from the water by the heat, and then condensed into the liquid form by the mere pressure of its own superabundant vapour.

On the following morning Dr. Paris received this note from Mr. Faraday, announcing his discovery:—

“DEAR SIR,

“The oil you noticed yesterday turns out to be liquid chlorine.”

The same morning Sir Humphry came to the institution, and after having witnessed the result, called for a strong tube, and having placed in it a quantity

of muriate of ammonia and sulphuric acid, sealed the tube, and causing the substances to act on each other, muriatic acid was evolved, and condensed in the same manner as the chlorine.

This great discovery is recorded in the Philosophical Transactions for the year 1823; and to that paper Davy appended one of his own, which he designated "Notes on the Condensation of the Muriatic Acid Gas into the liquid form."

The following facts connected with Faraday's pension, we find recorded in a magazine of great respectability. We do not, of course, vouch for the truth of the whole of the particulars, but we have been informed that they are in the main true.\*

Just prior to Sir R. Peel retiring from office, in 1835, an intimation was conveyed to Dr. Faraday that it was the intention of the government to recommend to his Majesty that he should be placed on an equal footing with professor Airy, by giving him a pension of £300 a year.

When Sir R. Peel was compelled to retire from office, Lord Melbourne, his successor, was formally put into possession of Sir R. Peel's minute, and so felt himself bound to act upon it.

Accordingly, his lordship deputed Mr. T. Young to sound Faraday's confidential friends, and to ascertain from them whether he would consent to accept £200 a year. To this, the reply was prompt and peremptory. "It is not the value of the pension

\* Fraser's Magazine.

that is regarded, but the position which it marks for the pensioned in the ranks of science: Mr. Faraday shall not accept a pension inferior to that which has been bestowed upon professor Airy. This communication was made to Lord Melbourne.

After the lapse of considerable time, Faraday returning from the country, found on his table one morning a letter from Mr. Young, which announced that Lord Melbourne wished to see him. As the letter was of some days' date, he did not pause to answer it, but went immediately to Downing Street, where he had an interview with Mr. Young. No mention was made of Sir Robert Peel's intentions, and in the course of a short time, Faraday found himself involved in a discussion on points connected with religion. At last his patience became exhausted, when the following dialogue ensued:

*Farady.* "Pray, Mr. Young, what am I to understand by all this? I came here in consequence of a letter from you, to see Lord Melbourne. What can my religious opinions have to do with the business?"

*Young.* "Now, Mr. Faraday, with your peculiar opinions, do you feel that you would be justified in accepting a pension from the Government?"

Faraday asked Mr. Young if he was authorised to put such a question; to which Mr. Young replied, that he thought he (Mr. F.) had better see Lord Melbourne himself; and, accordingly, into his lordship's presence Mr. Faraday was ushered. After a slight pause, the chemist observed, as he saw the Premier was indisposed to commence business, "I



am here, my lord, by your desire. Am I to understand that it is on the business which I have partially discussed with Mr. Young?"

*Lord Melbourne*, (in high excitement.) "You mean the pension, don't you?"

*Mr. Faraday*. "Yes, my lord."

*Lord Melbourne*, (in high excitement.) "Yes, you mean the pension, and I mean the pension too. I hate the name of the pension. I look upon the whole system of giving pensions to literary and scientific people as a piece of gross humbug. It was not done for any good purpose; it never ought to have been done. It is a gross humbug from beginning to end. It—"

*Mr. Faraday*, (rising, and making a bow.) "After all this, my lord, I perceive that my business with your lordship is ended. I wish you good morning."

After his return home, Faraday sat down and wrote a letter to the Premier, somewhat to this effect:—

MY LORD,

After the pithy manner in which your lordship was pleased to express your sentiments on the subject of the pensions that have been granted to literary and scientific persons, it only remains for me to relieve you, as far as I am concerned, from all farther uneasiness. I will not accept any favour at your hands, nor at the hands of any cabinet of which you are a member.

I have the honour to be,  
&c. &c.

On the receipt of this spirited letter, Lord Melbourne despatched Mr. Young, to induce Faraday to withdraw his "most impudent letter," as it was termed; but the distinguished chemist resolutely refused to comply with the request, and so the matter dropped, so far as Lord Melbourne is concerned.

Soon after the occurrence of the incidents just described, Lady Mary Fox chanced to visit Sir James South; on whose table, she saw an instrument that very much excited her curiosity. It was a small electrifying machine, with a ticket appended to it, on which was inscribed a little history to the following effect:—

The machine in question, is the first of which Faraday ever came into possession. It stood, when he was a youth, in an optician's window in Fleet Street, and was offered for sale at the cost of four shillings and six-pence; yet, such was the low state of Faraday's finances, that he was unable to purchase it. Many times he came to the window to gaze, and went away bitterly lamenting his own poverty; not because it subjected him to bodily inconveniences, but because it threatened to exclude him for ever from the paths of science and usefulness, on which he longed to enter. At last, however, by denying himself the common necessaries of life, Faraday did accumulate the four shillings and sixpence; and he went in all haste to the optician's, and purchased the treasure. In the performance of the early experiments on which the foundation of his future eminence was based, that four-and-sixpenny electrifying machine was his sole

assistant; and the degree of estimation, in which he gradually learned to regard it may be conceived. Until he parted with it to Sir J. South, it was almost constantly in his own sight; and if you asked him why, he would most probably answer you thus: "I value that machine, Sir, not only as a memorial of difficulties met and conquered, but as a means of reproving me should I ever be tempted to forget how much I owe to a kind Providence, which by securing to me the continued use of my faculties, has enabled me to rise from a station so humble to that which I now fill."

Lady Mary, as it may be supposed, was greatly touched by this simple tale; and having heard of the affair between Lord Melbourne and the first chemist of the day, she begged to be put in possession of the facts of the case. These were, of course, communicated to her; and her remark, on returning Faraday's letter, was this: "It is just what it ought to have been; as a man of honour and of merit he could not have written otherwise." But the matter did not rest here. The lady went to Brighton; the whole story was repeated to the King (William IV.) including an outline of Faraday's early struggle with poverty, and the monarch was so affected by the narrative, that he shed tears. "That man deserves all the pension that Peel promised;" so said the King; "and he shall have it too:" and accordingly Faraday was requested to accept the pension, not as a gift from the cabinet, but directly from the King!

Dr. GIDEON MANTELL ranks high among the



scientific physicians of the present day. Like most men of genius he manifested, at an early period, a strong natural bias towards the science which he was destined in after life so ably to elucidate.

His early career fully establishes the principle that a man of great genius is sure to triumph over difficulties and obstacles which would overwhelm men of ordinary strength of mind. There is a natural elasticity in the constitution of those endowed with great intellectual brilliance, which enables them to surmount the impediments which all men who aspire to eminence have to encounter.

Dr. Mantell was of humble origin. During his residence at Lewes, near Brighton, he attracted the attention of a chemist on account of the intellectual precocity which he exhibited. Mantell was accordingly bound as an apprentice to the chemist, who on discovering in his young *protégé* talents of the highest order, determined to send him to London, and educate him for the medical profession. Mantell accordingly came up to town, and went through the usual routine of medical studies, when he returned to Lewes. By this time his fame was spread abroad, and everybody was talking of the young prodigy. He subsequently attracted the notice of the Earl of Egremont, a nobleman who had distinguished himself for being the patron of men of learning and science. Having been introduced to Mantell, his lordship was delighted with him, and earnestly solicited him to settle at Brighton, offering to do his utmost to - establish him in practice, and to assist him in carrying

on his scientific researches. At that time Mantell having married a lady of great accomplishments, he respectfully declined the Earl of Egremont's kind and generous proposals. Some time afterwards, owing to some domestic trials which it is not necessary in this place to do more than allude, he was induced to leave his native place, and to settle at Brighton, under the patronage of his noble and distinguished friend, who did his best to advance Mantell's professional interests. The doctor now commenced the collection of those valuable specimens connected with the science of geology, which have rendered his name so eminent as a man of science. During his residence at Brighton, Dr. Mantell formed the valuable collection which has been a great object of curiosity for so many years, and known by the name of the "Mantellian Museum," and which has recently been purchased by government for the British Museum. Dr. Mantell never succeeded in obtaining any extensive practice at Brighton. He suffered the fate of most men who devote themselves to the pursuits of science. The public were willing to admit him to be a man of genius and of great scientific attainments; but they considered that his geological pursuits were incompatible with the practice of medicine; accordingly he failed in obtaining anything like a decent degree of patronage as a medical practitioner.

His lectures were attended by the *elite* of Brighton, and formed, for a considerable time, an object of attraction to all scientific men visiting that part of the country. He succeeded in exciting a taste for the



study of geology in the minds of those who had previously considered the science a jumble of dull and uninteresting facts, and dangerous conclusions, subversive of those truths which they had been led from their infancy to respect and venerate. Dr. Mantell clearly demonstrated the absurdity of these prejudices, and threw a charm around the subject, which his opponents never thought the science capable of receiving.

Dr. BIRKBECK is a native of Settle, in the West Riding of Yorkshire. His father was a banker of respectability, and, by his industry, acquired a large income. He was himself a younger son, and received the best possible education. Dr. Birkbeck's father, although a banker, had a scientific turn of mind, and it is possible that, owing to this, the son manifested so early in life so devoted an attachment to scientific investigation.

At an early period he exhibited the natural tendency of his mind. He was eager in the pursuit of knowledge, and exhibited a decided taste for mechanical science. It has been said that, when very young, his attention was attracted to a cotton mill, and he stood absorbed in contemplation of the complicated machinery which he saw put into motion. It was then that he expressed a wish to be employed in the same capacity as a working boy.

At the age of eight he was placed at a public school in Lancashire, where he remained for six years. He subsequently studied mathematics under Mr. Dawson,



of Sedberg, who was considered one of the first mathematicians of his day; and pursued his classical studies with his relation, Mr. Foster, of Hebblethwaite Hall, near Sedburgh, with whom he resided.

After acquiring a good elementary education, he was sent by his father to Edinburgh, where he devoted himself to the study of the various sciences connected with medicine, with an industry and enthusiasm, and success, rarely witnessed.

The cultivation which his mind had undergone, from the severe course of mathematical study to which it had been subjected, rendered these pursuits, instead of being irksome, in the highest degree delightful and amusing. He did not, whilst pursuing the study of medicine, give up his philosophic investigations; but he added to his stores of information by attending the eloquent lectures of Dugald Stewart, and Robinson. Dr. Birkbeck joined the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh. In this society he first developed that varied knowledge, those powerful talents, and that rare eloquence which have since improved, astonished, and captivated assemblies, containing a good proportion of the talents, genius, and knowledge of this great empire.

Dr. Birkbeck was twice elected president of the Medical Society at Edinburgh, as well as president of the Natural History Society of the same place. It was at this period that he became acquainted with Henry Brougham, who was, at that time engaged in the pursuit of science at the same university. He also formed a friendship with the late Mr. Horner,

whose short but brilliant career is well known to every lover of science. Among Dr. Birkbeck's friends we find the names of the celebrated lecturer of Animal Economy, Mr. Allan; Lord Jeffrey, one of the originators of the Edinburgh Review; Drs. Brown and Leyden; and Professor Wallace. With these celebrated men, distinguished for their love of knowledge and scientific attainment, Dr. Birkbeck was on most intimate terms of friendship.

Prior to his graduating in Edinburgh in medicine, he came to London, where he attended the lectures of Drs. Baillie, Pearson, and Fordyce. After publishing an essay on the blood, he graduated as doctor of medicine at Edinburgh.

Shortly after this, his friend Dr. Garnett resigned the professorship of experimental and chemical philosophy, which he held at the Andersonian Institution of Glasgow. At the age of twenty-two, Dr. Birkbeck was put in nomination as his successor, and received the appointment.

During the period of his lecturing in this institution, Dr. Birkbeck was brought frequently in contact with mechanics, and observed their eagerness for knowledge, the soundness of their judgment, and their capacity to undertake the most abstract departments of science when divested of technicalities. "Why," said he, "are such intellects as these of no avail?" The answer was evident, because they were uncultivated. It was this circumstance which induced the doctor to institute, on his own responsibility, and against the judgment of his friends, a gratuitous course

of lectures for those mechanics who could not afford to pay the fee demanded for his other course. At the first lecture there were 75 mechanics; at the second, 200; at the third, 300; and, at the fourth, 500 intelligent men, who greeted the youthful lecturer with an enthusiasm which showed how able they were to appreciate his extensive knowledge and splendid talents. In this way Mechanics' Institutions first originated.

For four years Dr. Birkbeck remained at Glasgow in the capacity of lecturer; and when he intimated to the mechanics who attended his class his intention to leave, so grateful were they for the knowledge which he had extended to them, that they presented a piece of plate to him, as the originator and founder of Mechanics' Institutions.

Upon leaving Glasgow he settled in London; and, after obtaining a licence from the London College of Physicians, he commenced practice. He was now elected one of the physicians to the Aldersgate Street Dispensary. He was at one time connected with a medical periodical, in which he displayed considerable powers of composition, combined with an extensive knowledge of every subject which he undertook to illustrate with his pen.

In 1823, Dr. Birkbeck established the London Mechanics' Institution; and in the following year he laid the foundation stone of the magnificent theatre connected with the central and commodious house selected by its committee. Here he delivered lectures on anatomy, physiology, and chemical philosophy.



In conjunction with Mr. Brougham, Mr. Campbell, the poet, Dr. Cox, of Hackney, the Rev. Mr. Irving, Mr. John Smith, and the Rev. Dr. Manuel, he established the London University on the principle of excluding all religious *tests* from the institution.

Dr. Birkbeck was one of the council; and being the only medical man acting in this capacity, he was particularly occupied, and much referred to, in the formation of the medical school attached to the university.

DR. ALEXANDER WILSON PHILIP is more known to the public as an author, than as a practical physician; and, consequently, we feel no hesitation in placing him among the medical men distinguished for their literary and scientific attainments.

Dr. Philip was born in the year 1772, at Sheethall, near Glasgow. His father's name was Wilson, and his son was compelled to change his name on his becoming the chieftain of his clan in Scotland. After being educated at the High School of Edinburgh, Dr. Philip was placed under the able instruction of the celebrated Drs. Cullen, Black, Monro, Gregory, Duncan, Home, and Rutherford. He graduated in medicine in 1792. Dr. Philip distinguished himself at Edinburgh by his attention to the various classes, and by the rapid progress he made in a knowledge of his profession. After visiting London, he returned to Edinburgh, where he commenced the practice of his profession. He soon acquired popularity and prac-

tice, by a course of lectures which he delivered on Febrile Diseases ; but on finding his health failing him, he left Edinburgh for Worcester, in which city he soon obtained a large share of practice. So highly was he thought of, that he received the appointment of physician to the County hospital, which situation he filled for fourteen years. In 1820 he was induced, by the recommendation of his friends, to establish himself in the great metropolis, and he accordingly left Worcester for town. His fame had preceded him—he was known to the public, particularly to the profession, by his many able writings. His physiological speculations, in his able work on the “Laws of the Vital Functions,” exhibit considerable patient research and ingenuity ; and although we cannot give in our adherence to all the conclusions which he has drawn, we do not hesitate to admit that Dr. Philip possesses a mind of no ordinary caliber. His works on “Indigestion” and on “Small Doses of Mercury,” have succeeded in bringing him into respectable practice.

It is not the object of these sketches to enter into a minute detail of the professional writings of the celebrated physicians whose names we mention ; it is sufficient for our purpose to enumerate the principal works which have emanated from their pens. Dr. Philip has contributed considerably to the various Medical Journals, Philosophical Transactions, &c., and his name is known and respected wherever science is cultivated.

Although not a professed homœopathist, Dr. Philip is fond of exhibiting minute doses of blue pill, in cer-

tain obscure affections of the stomach and liver, and it is said with considerable success. He is also fond of the various preparations of iodine, which he has pronounced to be a most potent and valuable remedy.

Dr. Philip's manners are particularly pleasing, when in communication with his patients. He is careful in ascertaining, by a minute examination, the existence of any local disease which may be going on, but which had escaped the observation of the patient himself.

Dr. Philip's expression of countenance is gentlemanly and intellectual, and denotes the philosopher, and the man who reasons for himself; and this is the characteristic of his mind. "I will take nothing for granted," he says, "until I have satisfied myself, by experiment and observation, that it is consistent with nature." How much valuable time and labour would be saved if all medical men acted upon the same principle!

Dr. Philip is a Fellow of the College of Physicians, and a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Among the scientific physicians of the present day, DR. N. ARNOTT stands pre-eminently high. He commenced his career as a general practitioner, in partnership with Dr. Darling, of Russel Square. In very early life Dr. Arnott manifested a strong predilection for scientific pursuits. He has devoted considerable attention to the study of Natural Philosophy, the different branches of which he subsequently so ably and lucidly illustrated in his celebrated "Elements of Physics."



A few minutes' conversation with this eminent physician is sufficient to impress you with the peculiar characteristics of his mind. You feel that you are talking to a philosopher, and an enthusiast. Dr. Arnott's knowledge of science is universally admitted to be most profound; and, like all men of true genius, he is humility personified.

At an early age he constructed some highly ingenious pieces of machinery, for the domestic use of his father's family; which circumstance, although perhaps trivial in itself, clearly showed the natural bent of his mind. We have been told that he conceived, at a very early period, the idea of his patent stove, which is now coming so universally into use. Dr. Arnott's talents have, fortunately for mankind, taken a practical turn. This is not the age for mere abstract truth, whether of a scientific or moral nature; the public are apt to ask *cui bono?* and will not be satisfied unless the discoveries in science can be practically applied to some useful purpose.

The principle of the hydrostatic paradox was known as a speculative truth in the time of Stevinus (1600); and its application to raising heavy weights, has long been stated in elementary treatises on Natural Philosophy, as well as constantly exhibited in lectures. Yet it may fairly be regarded as a mere abstract principle, until the late Mr. Bramah, by substituting a pump, instead of a column, converted it into a most valuable and powerful engine.

The principle of the convertibility of the centres of oscillation and suspension, in the pendulum dis-

covered by Huygens more than a century and a half ago, remained, until within these few years, a sterile, though most elegant proposition; when, after being hinted at by Prony, and distinctly pointed out by Bouenberger, it was employed by Captain Kater as the foundation of a most convenient practical method of determining the length of the pendulum. The interval which separated the discovery, by Dr. Black, of latent heat, from the beautiful and successful application of it to the steam engine, was comparatively short; but it required the efforts of two minds, and both were of the highest order.

The influence of electricity in producing decompositions, although of inestimable value as an instrument of discovery in chemical inquiries, can hardly be said to have been applied to the practical purposes of life, until the same genius which detected the principle applied it, by a singular felicity of reasoning, to arrest the corrosion of the copper sheathing of vessels. This was considered by Laplace as the greatest of Sir H. Davy's discoveries.\*

If Dr. Arnott be not entitled to the praise of having discovered any great scientific truth which will carry his name down to posterity, with Black, Huygens, and Davy, he deserves great credit for the many practical applications he has made of the principles of science.

Greatly to Dr. Arnott's honour, and much to his pecuniary loss, he has refused to take out a patent for his stove and hydrostatic bed. Had he done so, he would, no doubt, have realized an immense fortune.

\* Babbage on the Decline of Science in England.

This circumstance speaks highly for his liberality—it proves that he has feelings beyond those which influence the ordinary race of scientific men, who appear to be more anxious to promote their own selfish purposes, than to add to the amount of human happiness.

Bacon could say with truth, at the time when he wrote, that science could hardly boast of a single experiment which had served to increase the power, to diminish the suffering, or to augment the happiness of mankind. Were the great reformer of philosophy now to return to the earth, he would have the satisfaction of seeing how vast a change has been produced by that method of reasoning, which he suggested as the foundation of all true philosophy.

DR. ALEXANDER TURNBULL is a physician who has contributed much to the alleviation of human suffering. He commenced practice in the year 1815, in the city of Carlisle, where he obtained considerable fame and patronage. He remained there for five years; when, after visiting Edinburgh, and obtaining his degree of M. D., he, in the year 1832, came to the metropolis, took the house in Russell Square which had been previously occupied by Dr. Armstrong, and commenced the career of a London physician.

Possessing an inquiring and reflecting mind, he directed his attention to the relief of those painful nervous affections, which so often baffle the skill of the most eminent in the profession, and which diseases may be said to constitute, to a certain extent, the *opprobria* of our art.



In 1834 Dr. Turnbull discovered the extraordinary efficacy of *veratria*, in certain forms of neuralgia. Prior to this period it was the generally received opinion, that this powerful agent had active purgative qualities. M. Majendie, the celebrated French physiologist, states in all the editions of his "Formulary," that *veratria* is principally serviceable in cases where it is desirable to effect a prompt evacuation from the bowels. How Majendie could have been so deceived it is not in our power to say; but it is evident he knew nothing of the real efficacy of this powerful agent. To Dr. Turnbull belongs the honour of having introduced to the notice of the public this valuable preparation; and the profession now generally admit its curative properties, when externally and internally used in tic douloureux, rheumatism, gout, and all forms of neuralgic disease.

Dr. Turnbull considers this drug to exercise an *electro-stimulating* influence when externally applied, or administered internally; and that this effect must be fully induced before its sanative influence can be expected to be developed.\*

Dr. Turnbull has directed much of his attention to the diseases of the ear; and has succeeded in discovering some remedies which appear to act instantaneously on that organ, by removing all impediments to the healthy exercise of its functions. When it is evident that the disease arises from an affection of the nerve, we have seen immediate good result from

\* Vide Dr. Turnbull on "Painful and Nervous Diseases," p. 7. Third edition.

the use of his application. We have been particular in investigating some extraordinary cases of deafness which have been treated successfully by this physician, because when related they appear almost incredible; and we feel much pleasure in testifying to Dr. Turnbull's fairness, absence of all mystery, and willingness to permit every circumstance, connected with the patients under his care, to be thoroughly sifted.

At present it is not known what the remedies are which Dr. T. has discovered, and which have such extraordinary efficacy; but we feel assured that so soon as the doctor has matured his views, and brought to a conclusion the series of experiments in which he is now engaged, he will make known to the medical public the result of his unwearied, laborious, and patient researches, and thus remove any suspicions which the profession may feel disposed to entertain, in consequence of the remedial agents which he employs being known only to himself.

Opposed, as we most decidedly are, to all secret remedies, we naturally felt anxious that Dr. Turnbull should, like Cæsar's wife, place himself beyond all suspicion, and at once declare the nature of the remedies which he has found so highly beneficial, in cases of deafness not dependent upon organic disease. But it appears, and from what we have seen, we have no reason to doubt its truth, that it would be doing Dr. T. a great injury to disclose prematurely the discovery he has made. The matter is as yet only *sub judice*. The experiments are far from being finished—much has yet to be done before his views can be

laid with any degree of satisfaction before the public. Hitherto (and we speak from personal observation) the result has exceeded his most sanguine expectations. The most apparently obstinate cases of deafness appear to be incapable of resisting the potency of the application which is used; and what at first sight astonishes us the most is, that the effect is instantaneous. We have seen cases in which the defect was so great, as to prevent the patient from hearing the ticking of a watch when pressed closely to the ear; and yet in a few minutes after the application was made, the sound was audible to the person when the watch was held two yards from him.

But the most extraordinary cures which this physician has been enabled to effect, we have yet to mention. Dr. T. has, for some years, been engaged in a series of experiments respecting the treatment of children born deaf and dumb; and he has so far matured his discoveries, that he has succeeded in restoring a number of children to a healthy use of the organs of speech and hearing, who had been pronounced, by other members of the faculty, as incurable. We have, in the presence of many distinguished individuals, had the gratification of witnessing the process which the doctor has recourse to, and we can vouch for the triumphant success which attends his noble efforts to relieve the sufferings of his fellow-creatures. We have seen no less than two hundred patients at Dr. Turnbull's house in Russell Square, in one morning; many of them, of course, gratuitous. He is unremitting in his attention to the most humble of his patients.



Dr. Turnbull's manners are extremely gentlemanly and engaging. His knowledge is by no means confined to his profession; his mind appears to be generally well-informed on all subjects. We do not hesitate in affirming that if merit has its just reward, this physician will, one day, hold a proud rank among the medical philosophers of his day; and he will be considered as having done much to diminish the amount of human affliction, and to enlarge the boundaries of medical science.\*

DR. HENRY CLUTTERBUCK is a native of Cornwall. Being designed for the medical profession, he was apprenticed to a surgeon in Truro, where he remained for the term of five years, and then came to London, to attend the lectures at Guy's and St. Thomas's hospitals.

Having received the diploma of the College of Surgeons, Dr. Clutterbuck practised in London as a surgeon-apothecary about fourteen years; when desirous of taking a higher stand in his profession, he repaired to Glasgow, where he took his degree of M.D. in the year 1804. Upon his return to London, Dr. Clutterbuck adopted the usual methods for advancing himself in public estimation: he lectured upon the practice of physic and the materia medica; connected

\* Many cases of deaf and dumb children have been brought to Dr. Turnbull from the Institution at Liverpool, by Mr. Crosby Dawson, who has, in the presence of Lord W. Russell, and many members of the faculty, expressed his high gratification at the success which attends the doctor's process.

himself as physician to a dispensary, and devoted his time and talents to the improvement and elucidation of the healing art. Of the numerous contributions of his pen, to medical literature, the most noted are his observations upon fever, in three works, published in the year, 1807, 1819, and 1837, in which he endeavours to show that inflammation of the brain is the cause of all its phenomena, and blood-letting its best and safest remedy.

In person, Dr. C. is tall and stout, with a fine intellectual cast of features. His age is seventy-two, but he is still vigorous in mind and body; and is as much esteemed by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance, for his mild and gentlemanly bearing, as by his patients for his humanity and skill.

GEORGE GABRIEL SIGMOND, M.D., F.S.A. To the glory of the free institutions of England, the path to honourable distinction is open, as well to the lowest as to the most exalted of her sons. The truth of which is exemplified in the history of Dr. Sigmond, who is the son of a dentist at Bath, under whose paternal care was fostered that early inclination towards science, which ultimately induced him to enter the medical profession. After the usual preliminary studies, he graduated M.D. at Edinburgh, in the year 1814.

After returning from a continental tour, in which he collected much valuable information, he settled in London, sometime in the year 1826, when he became a licentiate of the College of Physicians, and was

elected physician to the Mary-le-bone General Dispensary, which he was induced, in a short time to resign, in order to take the medical charge of the Charing-cross hospital, the erection of which was mainly owing to his exertions, but which he soon resigned in consequence of a dispute with the directors of the institution. Unable to remain a quiet spectator of the progress of knowledge, the busy mind of Dr. Sigmond now urged him to an active co-operation with other scientific men, in the advancement of medical botany; and the Medico-Botanical Society was the result of this association, to the transactions of which the doctor has been a most liberal contributor.

Dr. Sigmond, who is now about forty-five years of age, ranks with the most accomplished and learned London physicians; and is receiving, it is hoped, that reward, which the public is ever willing to bestow upon those who, by their talents and skill, are worthy of its approval.

SIR WILLIAM BURNETT is physician-general of the navy. His family is of great respectability. In early life, having manifested a disposition for the study of medicine, he was placed under the instruction of the most eminent professors in the metropolis. He subsequently went to the university of Cambridge, where he obtained high honours; and having graduated in physic, he visited the university of Edinburgh, where he remained for a number of years, zealously pursuing his professional studies. In early life he was distinguished for his ardour and enthusiasm in the



pursuit of knowledge, and for his kindness of heart and generous disposition. His eminent talents and gentlemanly manners pointed him out as the person most qualified to fill the situation he now holds, with such credit to himself, and benefit to the service over which he presides.

In that portion of our work which refers to the situation of the surgeons and assistant surgeons of the navy, allusion is made to the position which medical men hold in the service, and of the little attention which is paid to their well-founded grievances. We feel assured that Sir W. Burnett has been unjustly accused of being inattentive to the complaints of the navy surgeon. He has ever been, and still is, most desirous of elevating their character; and, if he has not the power of carrying into operation all the suggestions which have been made for a reform in his department, he is not to be blamed for the neglect. He has done much for the medical men in the navy, for which they are bound to make every acknowledgment.

Sir W. Burnett's personal appearance is prepossessing. He is very gentlemanly in his manners, and is most desirous of furthering the wishes of those who apply to him. We feel assured, from the personal communication which we have had with this gentleman, that his whole mind is devoted to the interest of the profession connected with the department of which he is the head.

DR. ROGET, the Secretary of the Royal Society,

may be ranked among the most eminently scientific physicians of the day. His whole life has been devoted to the acquisition of useful knowledge. We hardly know which most to admire, his highly accomplished and courtier-like manners, or his richly-cultivated understanding. It is a rare circumstance to see a man who has spent the greater portion of his life among books, possessing, as he does, the elegant deportment of a person brought up all his life at court—yet he combines in himself both these qualities.

Dr. Roget is most highly connected. He is the nephew of the late Sir Samuel Romily. All his family are of great respectability.

He has for many years distinguished himself as a successful writer. He has contributed many valuable articles to the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, one of which he has lately published separately, on *Phrenology*, in which he endeavours, but we think unsuccessfully, to refute the doctrines of the phrenologist. His views are, however, original, and are deserving of every consideration, emanating as they do from a mind anxious only to arrive at the truth. Dr. Roget was selected to write one of the *Bridgewater Treatises*; and a most able and philosophical work he has produced. We should have felt much pleasure in giving an analysis of this master-piece of reasoning and eloquence, had we sufficient space to do so; we can only refer our readers to the work in question, which we feel convinced they will read with profit and delight.

Dr. Roget married Miss Hobson, a Liverpool lady

of great accomplishments, and of large fortune, who has been dead for some years.

The name of DR. LEONARD STEWART must not be omitted in our sketches of eminent living physicians. It is rarely that we have the pleasure of meeting in society a gentleman so highly and generally accomplished. Dr. Stewart is known to the profession as the author of several valuable medical works. He has been thrown much into the society of the English aristocracy; and has, at distinct periods, visited the continent as the physician of two distinguished noblemen. Possessing great powers of observation, the doctor availed himself of the opportunity of observing the influence of over-refinement, and extra civilization, on the health of the upper classes; and the result of his experience is recorded in a work which he published in the year 1828.\* In this volume will be found some valuable reflections on the refined food of children, refined education, and the partial exercise of the mental faculties.

On the first point he justly says:—

“We see tender parents begin their toil of meddling and indulgence, by over-exciting young people, and giving them food which is too fine and too nourishing. Articles of diet are sought out, entirely freed from coarse admixture or dross; these soon pass from the stomach, which eagerly calls for a fresh supply of such easily-digested matter; but containing, in large proportion, the elements of chyle, that remain long exposed

\* “On the Tendency to Disease in Refined Life.”



to the process of assimilation in the small intestines, where the absorbing lacteal vessels have an excess of work. The desired end of this ill-judged plan of nourishment, that, namely, of fattening or strengthening, is, at first, very frequently attained : but even this is a dangerous advantage ; for the intestines become clogged, in consequence of the undue *remoræ* of the alimentary mass, the foundation is often laid for habitual constipation, plethora, nervous irritability, and, probably, a tendency to suffer from any accidental cause of disease.”

Let kind and indulgent *Mammas* and *Grandmamas* ponder well Dr. Stewart’s sensible remarks on the stuffing system so frequently pursued with regard to children.

On refinement of education, the same author truly observes :—

“ Learning is aimed at through some short cut ; pleasure is made easy and inviting : they come undiluted by dulness, unpurchased by labour—the rose without its thorn. The passions, eager for immediate gratification, will not endure the weariness of anticipation, and seize upon their bait ; but, too young and undisciplined to contain or digest their full occupation, they soon fly off to some new object, which, in its turn, they but taste. In this way, neither pleasure nor employment is fully proved or dwelt upon ; and the inclinations get a habit of fickleness and frivolity, which leads to general disgust. And when these half-tasted enjoyments are shown in the back ground of a long vista of toil and care, as the reward of him who pursues the path of industry, unused to difficulty, the enervated youth shrinks at the means of success, and, imagining that he has tried everything, he despises the end of exertion.”

This work, although small, contains within its

pages principles which, if well digested and acted upon by those who have the training of youth, would contribute much to the welfare and happiness of the human race. It is a book which all parents ought to read most attentively.

Dr. Stewart studied at the university of Edinburgh, where he graduated in medicine; he subsequently became a licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians; and after travelling on the continent, and through America, visiting all the celebrated medical schools, he commenced practice in London.

The doctor's manners are most gentlemanly and courtier-like, and, in private life he is much esteemed. He has been president of the Westminster Medical Society, and is now president of the London Medical Society, and Fellow of the Royal Medico-Chirurgical. He is much above the ordinary height. His countenance gives a correct indication of the benevolence of his character. His high and expansive forehead denotes a mind which exerts its just prerogative of thinking for itself.

Dr. Stewart's brother has the honour of representing the borough of Honiton in parliament.

It is a rare circumstance that a physician, engaged in the arduous duties of private practice, has time to devote his mind to the cultivation of elegant literature. In the medical profession we have, in this particular, however, many splendid exceptions. Among the physicians who are alike eminent as practical men, and as ornaments to the literature of

their country, stands the name of DR. PARIS. His able work on diet stamps him as an acute and learned member of the faculty; and his "Life of Sir Humphry Davy," and his "Philosophy in Sport made Science in Earnest," have placed his name among the most popular writers of his day. Dr. Paris is much esteemed by all who have the honour of knowing him. His mind is formed in a superior mould. He may justly be termed a philosophic physician. His memory is richly stored with a knowledge of every department of literature and science, and as a practitioner of medicine he stands second to no one in the profession. His manners and personal appearance are extremely captivating and elegant; and he is, in every sense of the word, an accomplished scholar and a perfect gentleman.

SIR CHARLES MANSFIELD CLARKE, Bart. M.D. has a most extensive practice as a physician-accoucheur in the metropolis. His brother, Dr. John Clarke enjoyed the same eminence in this department of the profession before Sir Charles commenced his career; but finding his duties becoming too arduous for him, he transferred a considerable portion of his patients to his brother. To this circumstance an allusion is made in the following facetious lines:—

“ Beneath this stone, shut up in the dark,  
Lies a learned man-midwife, y’clep’d Doctor Clarke;  
On earth while he lived, by attending men’s wives,  
He increased population some thousands of lives;  
Thus a gain to the nation was gain to himself;  
And enlarged population enlargement of pelf,



So he toiled late and early, from morning to night,  
The squalling of children his greatest delight.  
When worn out with *labour*, he died skin and bone,  
And his ladies he left all to *Mansfield and Stone*."

That Sir Charles Clarke's talents are appreciated by those who are alone competent to form a proper estimate of them, will appear evident from the fact, that after a residence at Norfolk, the ladies subscribed for and presented a piece of plate to him, "In acknowledgment of his agreeable manners and invaluable services!" It will be important for the ladies to know, that Sir Charles is most agreeable and gentlemanly in his manners. In his department of practice, these are requisites which cannot be dispensed with. His appearance is indicative of his disposition. His round, ruddy, good-natured countenance bespeaks the peculiar benevolent features of his mind. His patients consider him every thing that a man ought to be; and, of course, their opinion is not to be questioned.

Sir Charles was appointed physician to the Queen Dowager, in 1830; and on the accession of King William IV. to the throne, he was created a baronet.

His work on the "Diseases of Women and Children," is an able and comprehensive treatise, and reflects great credit on his talents. It is full of practical information, the result of Sir Charles Clarke's long experience. Sir Charles is about fifty-six years of age. He is in the habit of leaving London for months at a time; but this circumstance has no influence on his practice. Possessed of a vast fund of

anecdote, he can, when in good spirits, make himself most agreeable at the bed-side of the patient. With a knowledge of this fact, need we be surprised at the ladies patronising him ?

DR. ALEXANDER TWEEDIE deserves honourable mention as an eminent practising physician, as well as for his many valuable contributions to the literature of his profession. Dr. Tweedie commenced his medical studies at Edinburgh, where he had the advantage of the instructions of the most celebrated medical professors attached to the university. He was a pupil of the late Mr. Wishart, who made himself known by his translation of " Scarpa on Hernia." It may be mentioned as an instance of Dr. Tweedie's early devotion to his profession, that at the age of eighteen, he was engaged with Mr. Wishart in making the greater part of the translation of this work, and in superintending its publication. During Dr. Tweedie's noviciate in Edinburgh, he paid considerable attention to the diseases of the eye ; and his thesis on graduating was devoted to the subject of cataract. He subsequently became house-surgeon, to the Edinburgh Infirmary and physician's assistant to Dr. James Hamilton, author of the well-known work " On Purgatives." Under the guidance of this able physician, we are led to believe that Dr. Tweedie made great progress in a knowledge of his profession, and evinced those talents which have succeeded in placing his name very high in the list of the most eminent medical men of the day.

After graduating in physic, and becoming a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, he, in 1820, came to London, and immediately presented himself at the College of Physicians for examination. To his great astonishment they refused to examine him, on the ground that he was a fellow of the Edinburgh Royal College of Surgeons; and Dr. T. was compelled to obtain a nominal surgical disfranchisement, before he was allowed to become a licentiate of the London College.

In 1824 Dr. Tweedie succeeded the late Dr. Armstrong as physician to the London Fever Hospital.

In 1829 he published a work, entitled, "Clinical Illustrations of Fever," which, on account of its great merit, was reprinted in America.

The medical profession is deeply indebted to this eminent physician for having projected and edited, in conjunction with Drs. Forbes and Conolly, that most valuable work, the "Cyclopedia of Practical Medicine," to the pages of which he, in common with the most celebrated men connected with the profession, contributed. This work is in itself a library of medicine.

In 1838, Dr. Tweedie was elected Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians. He is also physician to the Foundling hospital; and has lately been appointed Examiner in Medicine to the University of London.

In addition to his other works, Dr. Tweedie has undertaken [the publication of a work to be entitled "The Library of Medicine." In order to make this undertaking as complete as possible, he



has engaged, as writers, some of the most eminent practical and scientific men connected with medicine in this country. The first of the series is now about to be published.

Dr. Tweedie is Fellow of the Royal Society, and is about forty-five years of age. He has considerable practice in acute cases of disease, to which he has devoted much attention. His various writings and long connexion with the Fever Hospital has brought him into great notice; and we feel convinced that he is deservedly considered to rank among the most rising physicians of the day.

DR. SOUTHWARD SMITH is also connected officially with the London Fever Hospital. We understand that this physician was originally an Unitarian minister; but having an inclination towards the study of medicine, he graduated in physic at the University of Edinburgh. Dr. Smith is well known to the profession and the public, by his many able publications.

His work on fever is a sound practical treatise. He has also written a work on the "Philosophy of Health," and has lectured on this subject at the Mechanics' Institute.

DR. GEORGE GREGORY is physician to the Small Pox Hospital, and is author of a work on the Practice of Medicine, which is considered a class-book in the profession. He is the son of a clergyman of the church of England, and nephew of the celebrated Professor Gregory of Edinburgh. Dr. G. Gregory has much

practice, and is considered to be very successful in the treatment of variolous disease.

DR. JAMES JOHNSON holds a high and an enviable position in the medical world. He possesses two mental characteristics, which the public rarely believe can enter into combination, viz. a thorough scientific knowledge of every branch of medical science, and a practical skill and dexterity in the detection and treatment of disease, not excelled by the most illustrious of his living contemporaries. In early life, Dr. Johnson travelled abroad, and it was during one of the many sea voyages which he has taken, that he met with the late King, then Duke of Clarence, who, struck with his great talents, made him his physician, which honourable office he continued to fill after the Duke ascended the throne.

Dr. Johnson distinguished himself as a successful author. His masterly production on the "Diseases of Tropical Climates," is read and studied by all desirous of thoroughly knowing their profession, and particularly by those who enter the Army, Navy, or East India Company's Medical Service. Indeed, candidates are examined in this work, before they are allowed to have their commission.

Besides the work just mentioned, Dr. Johnson has published a treatise on the "Morbid Sensibility of the Stomach and Bowels," the "Economy of Health," and a most entertaining and instructive volume entitled "Change of Air; or, Travelling in Pursuit of Health."

The publication of these standard works has tended greatly to Dr. Johnson's professional advancement. His great success in the treatment of affections of the liver has gained for him considerable notoriety and practice. Invalids returning home from India with broken-down constitutions, fly immediately on their arrival to Dr. Johnson for relief; consequently, he may be said to monopolize nearly altogether this branch of practice. This need not excite a feeling of surprise; for in our West India Colonies, and in our East India possessions, the fame of Dr. Johnson as a "stomach and liver doctor," is almost universally diffused through the country.

The course of treatment which he recommends in cases of dyspepsia, is one of the most judicious ever adopted. Owing to the doctor having been afflicted for many years with a severe attack of indigestion, he pursued a novel plan of treatment with regard to himself, which completely restored the healthy functions of the diseased organ. He has tried a similar system in hundreds of cases, and with the same happy result.

Dr. Johnson established, and has for many years edited, a most valuable quarterly Medical Journal, entitled the "Medico-chirurgical Review." This is a very able periodical, conducted in a liberal and gentlemanly spirit, and is most extensively patronized by the profession.

In the editorship of this work, Dr. Johnson has the able assistance of his son, a surgeon of great promise and talents. We understand that the foreign



department of the Journal is under the care of Dr. Milroy, a physician who, by his high attainments and knowledge of foreign medical literature, is fully qualified for his office.

Dr. Johnson's personal appearance is greatly in his favour. His manners are very elegant and polished; and his knowledge of the world, combined with his general acquirements as a scholar and a man of letters, renders his company much courted by the literati of the day.

Dr. Johnson takes a prominent part in the debates at the Westminster Medical and the London Societies. His opinions are much respected by the profession; and although he cannot be called a finished orator, his speeches are no less valuable for the important practical information which they convey.

DR. THOMAS ADDISON is assistant physician to Guy's hospital, and author of several valuable medical works. We had intended to have published an elaborate sketch of this eminent and accomplished physician, but we must defer it to a future occasion, when we hope to do him ample justice. He holds a deservedly prominent rank among the London physicians, and has considerable practice.

DR. CHOWNE is physician to the Charing-cross hospital, and lecturer on medical jurisprudence at the school attached to the institution. He has considerable practice as an accoucheur, and is much respected for his abilities, and esteemed for his gentlemanly de-

portment. He is president of the Westminster medical society, where he often speaks with considerable ability.

Among other physicians in the metropolis, who practice the same branch of medicine, are the following: DRs. BLUNDELL, LEE, and DAVIS, of the University College hospital, RYAN, RAMSBOTHAM, &c., all gentlemen of professional reputation, and known as successful practitioners.

DR. PROUT, is distinguished for his scientific knowledge and general medical attainments, and is author of a valuable work on "Calculus Diseases," and a publication entitled "Chemistry, Metereology, and the Digestive Function, considered in relation to Natural Theology," which forms one of the Bridgewater Treatises.

DR. ALEXANDER MARCET has written an able work on Calculus Diseases, which is considered to exhibit an intimate knowledge of the subject.

DR. BILLING, of the London hospital, is well known for his valuable book on the "Principles of Medicine."

DR. ROE, of Manchester Square, is a gentleman who has espoused the cause of the Irvingites, and is much patronized by that religious denomination. Dr. Roe is, what is termed an "Angel," or an "Apos-

tle" of this strange sect, and takes an active part in their proceedings. He has lately published an able work on Hooping Cough.

Of Drs. Roots, Darling, Sutherland, Stroud, Lee, Williams, D. Davis, Holland, Warren, we had prepared notices; but not having room, we have been compelled to defer, for the present, their publication.

In concluding our sketches of living physicians, we would observe, that we have endeavoured in a spirit of fairness, and we hope of truth, to give an impartial account of the eminent men whose names we have mentioned. If in doing so, we have caused pain to any one, we shall extremely regret the circumstance.

Had we felt disposed, it was in our power to have described more minutely the private relations of the physicians and surgeons, of whose professional abilities we have endeavoured to convey some idea to our readers; but we felt that nothing could have justified us in adopting such a course, and we have endeavoured, therefore, with a few exceptions, to speak of them only as public characters.



## CHAPTER VII.

### SKETCHES OF EMINENT LIVING SURGEONS.

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Sir A. P. Cooper—Sir Anthony Carlisle—Mr. Benjamin Travers—Mr. Bransby Cooper—Mr. Guthrie—Mr. Robert Liston—Sir B. Brodie—Mr. Lawrence—Mr. Wardrop—Sir C. Bell—Mr. Pettigrew—Mr. Owen—T. Wakley—Mr. Key—Mr. Morgan—Mr. Costello—H. Thompson—Mr. Stanley—Mr. Dermott.

WE do not consider it necessary to make many preliminary observations, in introducing to our readers the names of the distinguished gentlemen who occupy the rank of eminent London surgeons.

In our sketches, we have selected those only with whose abilities the public are somewhat familiar, and respecting whom they are naturally the most interested. There are many, we have no doubt, in the walks of surgery, who do not enjoy the title of eminent; but who, in consequence of their talents and acquirements, have a valid claim to such a distinction.

SIR ASTLEY PASTON COOPER may be properly termed the Wellington of British surgery. His profound anatomical knowledge, his energy and decision in cases of danger, his kindness of heart and humane disposition, his inimitable skill in using the knife, and sound judgment in detecting the necessity for an operation, in cases involved in great obscurity, have all conspired to place him, by universal consent, at the head of modern surgery.

Astley Paston Cooper is the youngest son of the late Rev. S. Cooper, D.D. and Maria Susanna, daughter of James Bransby, Esq. of Shollisham, in the county of Norfolk. Mrs. Cooper is the authoress of a novel, called the "Exemplary Mother." Sir Astley was born, August 23, at Brooke, in the same county, where he remained until the age of fourteen, when his family went to Yarmouth, of which place his father was instituted rector in 1782.

We have been curious, says a writer, to inquire into the early qualities of a boy, so highly distinguished in his after career by remarkable decision and talent; and, from a companion of his juvenile years, we gather that he was from infancy of a bold and enterprising spirit. A circumstance is related in proof of this. When in attempting to convert a cow into a riding horse, young Cooper was thrown, and broke his collar-bone, amidst the long and loud laughter of his companions, in which, so far from lamenting, the young surgeon heartily joined. In early life, Sir Astley was distinguished for his social disposition and friendly demeanor to all the boys of his own age, however

removed from him by the circumstances of birth and education.

At this period he acquired a knowledge of reading, writing, and arithmetic, at the village school kept by a person of the name of Larke; he was subsequently taught Latin by his father, who had the reputation of being an accomplished scholar. A remarkable anecdote is recorded of him, which, fortunately for science and for mankind, led the way to the general extension of that skill and ability which has so largely benefited both.

It happened that a boy was thrown off a cart, in his presence, by which accident he wounded an artery in the thigh, and when on the ground, the blood gushed so copiously from the wound as to terrify all the other youthful spectators of the scene. They ran screaming for assistance, which must have come too late, had not the embryo-surgeon hastened to his aid. Young Cooper, when he saw the state of his young patient, with great presence of mind, instantly made his handkerchief into a tourniquet, and applied it so scientifically to the thigh, as to succeed effectually in stopping the hemorrhage, which would otherwise, in a few minutes, have proved fatal.

Sir A. Cooper has been often heard to declare, that the mental gratification of having thus saved the life a fellow-creature, inspired him at once with an almost romantic desire to become a surgeon.

At the age of fourteen, he went to Yarmouth, at which place he resided twelve months. At the age



of fifteen, he was placed with Mr. Turner, an apothecary, to ascertain how he liked the profession. Mr. Turner was a kind, but austere man; one of whom youth stood in awe, and, of course, Master Cooper did not escape the common restraint of his domestic discipline. A scolding and reproof, which he had earned by some carelessness, was being administered to him with due emphasis, but with so little effect, that his castigator caught him in the delinquency of making faces at him behind his back. An explanation of these contortions was sternly demanded; when the ready youth, who happened to have a carious tooth, dexterously availed himself of the circumstance, and, continuing his grimaces, exclaimed, "My tooth, sir! my tooth! it is so painful, sir; who can help making faces?" But Mr. Turner was also a wag in his way, and not to be easily diverted from the real state of the case: so, asking to examine the tooth, which he found to be as represented, he in an instant introduced his instrument, and ere the patient could be aware of the design it was out of his jaws!

During the short period that Cooper remained under Mr. Turner's roof, he manifested sufficient of his disposition to excite the admiration and love of every one who knew and could appreciate the natural benevolence of his heart.

In every case of distress, Cooper was ever ready to administer relief. Mr. Turner had the professional care of a large parish, containing a considerable num-

ber of poor patients; and although it was not his custom (neither was he expected, except in urgent cases) to visit personally these paupers, Cooper volunteered to do so for him, and he was indeed most unremitting in his attentions to the sick and distressed; not only sending them proper medicines, but, in many instances, affording them, out of his own scanty allowance, pecuniary assistance.

In 1784, he came to London, and was apprenticed to his uncle, Mr. William Cooper, who was at that time surgeon of Guy's Hospital; but three months after, he was transferred to the care of the celebrated Mr. Cline.

“Here,” says one of his biographers, “his character almost immediately began to develop itself, in that decided manner which raised him afterwards to such professional eminence. The early promise of his future greatness was as marked as it was certain.”

In 1787, Sir Astley visited Scotland, where he remained some time, attending the lectures of the most distinguished of the Edinburgh faculty. He also took an active part in the discussions at the Royal Medical Society, where he distinguished himself.

In the year 1792, he went to Paris, and was there during the attack upon the Château of the Tuilleries. He was much noticed by the late Dupuytren, who introduced him to Louis Philippe, then the Duke of Orleans. The king of the French conferred upon Sir Astley the cross of the legion of honour; he subsequently was elected an honorary member of the National Institute.

Sir A. Cooper commenced practice in 1792. He then resided in Jeffrey's-square, St. Mary Axe, where he lived for six years; he then removed to New Broad-street, Bishopsgate, and in 1815, he settled at the west end of the town.

It is said by Mr. Pettigrew, that Sir Astley received the largest fee ever, at that time, given for an operation. An old gentleman, of the name of Hyatt, who was a resident in the West Indies, when he arrived at the age of seventy, being afflicted with stone in the bladder, he determined to come to England to undergo an operation for its removal. Sir Astley performed the operation with consummate skill; when the patient was well enough to leave his bed, he observed to Sir Astley, "That he had *fee'd* his physician, but he had not yet rewarded his surgeon." Upon asking Sir Astley what his fee was, he replied, "Two hundred guineas." "Pooh, pooh!" exclaimed the old gentleman, "I shan't give you two hundred guineas—there, that is what I shall give you," tossing off his night-cap, and throwing it at Sir Astley. "Thank you, sir," said Sir A. "anything from you is acceptable," and he put the cap into his pocket. Upon examination, it was found to contain a cheque for *one thousand guineas!* The same authority relates another anecdote, which must not be omitted in our sketch of this veteran of modern surgery.

Mr. Steer consulted Sir A. at his own residence, and, having received his advice, departed without giving the usual fee. Sir Astley took no notice of this, but gave



his assistance to him cheerfully, under a belief that he was a gentleman who had been reduced in circumstances. Shortly afterwards, Sir A. Cooper received a note, acquainting him, that on going to the Stock Exchange, he Mr. Steer, found he had some omnium which he had not disposed of, and that he had taken the liberty of putting £3000 of it in his name; and finding that it had soon after risen, he took the further liberty of selling it for him, and now sent him the difference, which was £63. 10s.

Sir Astley's fees amounted in one year to £21,000; and for a long period from £15000, and upwards, per annum. For many years Sir Astley has lectured to a large and admiring class, at Guy's Hospital, on the principles and practice of Surgery.

After Sir Astley's removal to Spring Gardens, so great was his fame and practice, that he commenced seeing patients at seven in the morning;—at twelve he went to Guy's hospital to perform his operations, at six in the evening he delivered his lectures on anatomy and surgery, and afterwards generally went into the country to attend some patient in danger. He then frequently travelled all night, always however, appearing fresh and active at the usual hour in the morning. The crowd of patients who flocked to his house was so great, that often many of them could not see him for three days at a time; and it is said, that his servant made an income of £600 annually, by being paid for ushering them into the presence of the surgeon before their time.

Though nominally retired from practice, Sir Astley

still continues to be consulted in cases where great experience, skill, and judgment are necessary. His assistant Mr. ———, undertakes the more arduous portion of his practice. He was the son of an old and favourite servant of Sir Astley's, whom he adopted and educated. We understand that he possesses considerable talent, and is thoroughly conversant with his profession. If he were not so, we feel convinced that Sir Astley would not place so much confidence in him, or allow him to act as his representative.

Sir Astley suffers much from the gout, to which complaint he has been a martyr for some years. Notwithstanding his age and affluence, he still exhibits all the passion of earlier years, for the study of anatomy. Wherever he goes, either for recreation or on professional business, he never appears satisfied unless he is engaged in anatomical investigations. His great ambition appears to be the advancement of the science, to the practice of which he has devoted his life. In private and public life, no man can be more universally beloved than the subject of our present sketch. We can recall to mind the evening we presented ourselves before the board of examiners of the College of Surgeons, and most vividly is impressed on our memory, the kind goodnatured smiling face of Sir A. Cooper, who by his looks and tokens of approbation, cheered and encouraged us on through the ordeal of our examination. As a lecturer, Sir A. Cooper took the highest rank. He always had the largest class of any London teacher of Surgery. His style was marked by all the good qualities which we should

*à priori* say were necessary to constitute an able and successful lecturer. They were not exclusively attended by students ; but medical men, who had been engaged for many years in the practice of their profession, availed themselves of the opportunity of attending his invaluable surgical instructions.

SIR ANTHONY CARLISLE, the late president of the College of Surgeons, is a descendant of an ancient and noble family. He is the third of four sons, and was born in 1768. Having had considerable attention paid to his elementary education, he came to London for the purpose of placing himself under the professional instructions of the most eminent of the London faculty. He accordingly became a student at the Hunterian school, and attended with unwearied diligence the valuable lectures of Cruikshank, Hunter, and Dr. Baillie. His talents and industry soon attracted the notice of the great John Hunter, who predicted his future professional eminence. Young Carlisle was a passionate admirer of England's greatest physiologist. He availed himself of every opportunity of being in his society, and listened with earnestness to the valuable lessons of wisdom which fell from his lips.

“Do not deceive yourselves,” Hunter would say to his class ; “you cannot become great in any profession without uncommon industry, the exercise of self-denial, and a subjection of all the powers of the mind to the one great object of your ambition.”

Acting upon the advice of his able preceptor, Car-



lisle devoted himself to the study of his profession with a zeal rarely exhibited among medical students of the present day, many of whom, we regret to say, are satisfied with an amount of knowledge, only just sufficient to enable them to pass through the ordeal of their examinations.

Sir A. Carlisle was emulated by higher and nobler aspirations. To perfect himself in a knowledge of his profession—to be enabled to mitigate the sufferings of his fellow-creatures by an application of that knowledge, and to advance the principles of the science of medicine, were the praiseworthy motives which influenced his mind in preparing himself for the active and important duties of life.

So high an opinion had Hunter of Carlisle's abilities, that he asked him to conduct the dissections for, and to undertake the arrangements of, his museum; which proposition he, however, declined.

In order to become thoroughly conversant with practical surgery, he entered as the pupil of Mr. H. Watson, who was at that time one of the surgeons of Westminster hospital. Carlisle now gave up his mind to the study of actual disease, at the bed-side of the patient.

Having read nearly all the principal works on the science of surgery, he thought it necessary to see and observe for himself, in order to reject what was inconsistent with facts, and to confirm by a comparison with nature what books had led him to expect.

Carlisle lived in the hospital, in order to avail himself of every opportunity of adding to his stock of

knowledge. Day and night he was to be found at the post of danger, ever ready to relieve the unfortunate sufferers who were admitted for surgical relief into the institution.

What could he expect to be the result of such devotion to the duties of his profession? The approbation and admiration of all right-thinking men, and the approval of his own conscience. Carlisle's industry, as is the case with all well-directed application, met with its reward.

Upon the decease of Mr. Watson, in 1793, Carlisle became his successor as surgeon to the Westminster hospital, and he is now the senior surgeon of that institution.

Sir Anthony Carlisle, who has often filled the anatomical chair at the Royal Academy, is represented as being no less abstruse and instructive, than pleasant and amusing. His illustrative anecdotes are said always to be excellent, and his mode of telling them quite dramatic. He is considered to be more agreeable as a lecturer than in conversation—he is rich in the old lore of England—he will hunt a phrase through several reigns—propose derivations for words which are equally ingenious and learned—follow a proverb for generations back—and discourse on the origin of language, as though he had never studied aught beside: he knows more than any other person we ever met with of the biography of individuals of talent. In the philosophy of common life, he is quite an adept—a capital chronologist—a man of fine mind and most excellent memory. “We remember,”

says a friend of Sir Anthony's, "he once amused us for half a day by adducing instances of men, who, though possessed of mean talents, had enabled themselves to effect wonders, by simply hoarding in their minds, and subsequently acting upon, an immense number of facts: from this subject, he naturally enough fell into a discourse on the importance, in many cases and situations, of attending to trifles. As proof of this, he mentioned a circumstance which occurred to an eminent surgeon within his own memory; it was as follows: 'A gentleman residing about a post-stage from town, met with an accident which eventually rendered amputation of a limb indispensable. The surgeon alluded to was requested to perform the operation, and went from town with two pupils to the gentleman's house, on the day appointed for that purpose. The usual preliminaries being arranged, the surgeon proceeded to operate; the tourniquet was applied, the flesh divided, and the bone laid bare, when, to his astonishment, he discovered that he had forgotten to bring his saw! Here was a predicament to be in! Luckily his presence of mind did not forsake him. Without apprising his patient of the terrible fact, he put one of his pupils into his carriage, and told the coachman to gallop to town. It was an hour and a half before the saw was obtained, and during all that time the patient lay suffering. The agony of the surgeon was great, but scarcely a sufficient punishment for his neglect in not seeing that all his instruments were in his case before he commenced the operation.'



Basil Montagu the barrister, who was present during the narration of this anecdote, mentioned another instance of the propriety of noticing those minor circumstances in life, which are usually suffered to pass unheeded.

A man of talent was introduced into a company of strangers; he scarcely spoke after the first salutation, until he wished the party good night. Almost every one in the room dubbed him a fool; the lady hostess, who had not previously been informed of the abilities of her new guest, was of a different opinion. "I am sure," said she, that you are all wrong; for, although he said nothing, I remarked that *he always laughed in the right place!*"

BENJAMIN TRAVERS, Esq., F.R.S, is senior surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital, and surgeon extraordinary to the Queen.

The father of Mr. Travers, though a merchant in the city of London, was a great lover of medical investigations, in the pursuit of which he frequently attended the lectures of Mr. Cline and Mr. Cooper, on anatomy, and to this circumstance is owing the early predilection for surgery in his second son Benjamin, who was his usual companion upon these occasions. Having received a good classical education, Mr. Travers was apprenticed to Mr. Cooper, surgeon of Guy's Hospital, and after the usual course of study, was admitted sometime in the year 1806, a member of the London College of Physicians. Unwilling to

commence practice immediately upon receiving his degree, he availed himself of an opportunity of visiting Edinburgh, where he prosecuted his surgical and anatomical studies under the eminent professors in that school.

Having completed his professional education, he determined to settle in London, which he did some time in the year 1808. The following year Mr. Travers was appointed, after a well-contested election, one of the surgeons to the East India Company's warehouse brigade, and was thus at once both usefully and profitably employed. In 1810 he was nominated surgeon to the London Infirmary for Diseases of the Eye, which he held singly about four years, when, in consequence of the great increase of patients, he applied to the governors for assistance, and Mr. Lawrence, of St. Bartholomew's, was appointed his coadjutor.

In 1815 Mr. Travers was elected, without opposition, one of the surgeons to St. Thomas's Hospital, at which time he resigned his appointment in the East India Company's Service, and soon after his surgeoncy of the Eye Infirmary.

These opportunities for acquiring experience were not lost upon Mr. Travers, as will be seen by the list of able productions which have emanated from his pen.

MR. BRANSBY COOPER, as soon as his profession was finally chosen, became a pupil at the Norwich Hospital—the most distinguished, with the exception of those in London, for the operation of lithotomy.

He served with diligence in that institution for two years. He then came to London. He was admitted a pupil of Guy's Hospital, where he continued for a year and a half; when his merits and manners recommended him to that notice by which he was appointed assistant surgeon to a regiment of artillery, and went abroad in 1813, and was present in every battle till that of Toulouse—that grand effort which was the basis of the peace, in 1814. His first evidence of coolness was exhibited in operating on the field of battle, under the roar of cannon, and exposed to danger.

His experience as a surgeon was thus first known where a man is required to manifest both confidence and talent. Having had an opportunity of distinguishing himself, his illustrious relative recommended him to pursue that line of practice for which his abilities rendered him so peculiarly eligible; and he predicted that if he pursued his studies with the interest and zeal which he had exhibited, that he had a prospect of attaining to great eminence.

Mr. Cooper went to Canada, and served nearly a year and a half in the last unhappy war, in which we had the misfortune to engage with our American friends.

When that war terminated, Cooper went to Edinburgh, where he pursued his studies, for some time, with great diligence and success. During his stay there, he had the high honour of being appointed president of the Edinburgh Medical Society, which office he held until he left Edinburgh for London.

Emulated by the ennobling example of Sir A.



Cooper, he determined to confine his attention to the study of surgery; and in 1817 he was formally apprenticed to his uncle, who was then principal surgeon of Guy's Hospital. During that period his assiduity was unremitting. He was soon appointed Sir Astley Cooper's demonstrator; and so high was he in the confidence and opinion of his uncle, that he made him his assistant in his lectures, operations, and private practice. At an early period he was called upon to perform many difficult and dangerous operations connected with surgery, in all of which he acquitted himself very highly.

Mr. B. Cooper is now surgeon to Guy's Hospital, where he lectures to a large class of students. His able work on the Ligaments is a medical class-book. He has also published two volumes of his Lectures on Anatomy, which are rendered extremely valuable, by being interspersed with important practical surgical observations.

MR. GUTHRIE entered the army early in life as an assistant surgeon. He acted in that capacity during a part of the Peninsular war. He was soon promoted to the office of full surgeon, and held a high staff-appointment. He was distinguished during the whole of the Peninsular campaign for his industry, surgical skill, and kind and unwearied attention to the sick, either on the field or in the military hospital.

Mr. Guthrie's great talents were not long unnoticed. The Duke of Wellington is said to have expressed, in

the most marked manner, his sense of Mr. Guthrie's abilities, and attention to his duties.

The treatment of the diseases of the eye, like dental surgery of the present day, was some years back monopolized by ignorant and designing charlatans, who enriched themselves at the expense of those who were *too blind* to perceive the impudence of their pretensions to a knowledge of an important class of diseases.

It was this circumstance that induced Mr. Guthrie to devote his attention to the nature and treatment of affections of this organ; and the result is that he has placed himself in a high position as a surgeon-oculist. He is considered very successful in his practice, and skilful in his operations. His official connexion with the London Ophthalmic Hospital, which, we believe, he was the means of founding, has enabled him to attain that dexterity in the operations for cataract, for which he is so celebrated.

Mr. Guthrie has not exclusively devoted his attention to the operative part of ophthalmic surgery, but he is considered very clever in the treatment of the general diseases of the eye.

His novel and ingenious mode of treating cases of simple ophthalmia, originated with himself, and having given it publicity, it is now generally adopted by the profession.

Mr. Guthrie has delivered several courses of lectures on surgery, at a school attached to the Westminster hospital, which were attended by a large and admiring class. He is one of the most accomplished lecturers it has ever been our pleasure to hear. He lectures

without a single note, and never hesitates for want of language to express his ideas. His style is a specimen of eloquent simplicity. He reminds us much of the late Mr. Abernethy. Having been much in the army, his mind is stored with amusing anecdotes, with which he illustrates his lectures, and renders them highly attractive. How often have we seen the class convulsed at Mr. Guthrie's laughable stories. His personal appearance is very prepossessing. In height he is about the middle size, but rather inclined to be corpulent. His countenance is intellectual, and he has a good-natured expression, which is extremely pleasing to the eye.

Mr. Guthrie is one of the examiners at the Royal College of Surgeons. Some years ago he filled the honourable office of President of the College. His able work on gun-shot wounds establishes his claim to be considered a man of first-rate talents. He has also published other works, which redound greatly to his credit. He is surgeon to the Westminster hospital.

MR. ROBERT LISTON of the North London hospital, is one of our great surgical lions. No country practitioner visits the metropolis without being able to say, when he returns to his own quiet town, or retired village, "I have seen Liston operate:" not to have done so would be considered as exhibiting as lamentable a want of curiosity, as was manifested by the countryman who left London without seeing the Queen.

"Bob Liston," as he is termed in familiar phrase-



ology by his friends in Edinburgh, is the son of a presbyterian clergyman of great respectability. He is a cousin of Mr. Liston, the celebrated comedian, and is also nearly related to Sir Robert Liston, an officer who has much distinguished himself in the service of his country.

Considerable attention was paid to Liston's education; but, as he was destined for the medical profession, he was placed at an early period under the instruction of those who were considered the most competent to direct his mind into the proper course of study.

We are not able to say whether he exhibited in early life the elements of his future greatness; but we are told that, when attending the classes at the university, he was distinguished for his devotion to the knife and dead body, by seldom being out of the dissecting-room.

If anything was likely to operate in placing him in his present position, it was that circumstance. He had judgment enough to be convinced that his ambition of becoming the rival of a Cooper, a Brodie, and a Lawrence, could only be gratified by being thoroughly initiated in the minute anatomical construction of the human body. The science of anatomy was his darling study—he made everything give place to it. On one occasion, whilst dissecting with great minuteness, the neck and tracing the course of the par vagum, he was summoned with great earnestness from the dissecting-room by a gentleman who was anxious to exchange a few words with him, when Liston voci-

ferated—"D—n to you, if you dare to enter these sacred precincts, I will run you through with the scalpel!" and, suiting the action to the word, he darted towards the door, knife in hand, and soon routed the enemy.

Mr. Liston has in his composition all the elements and qualities which, *à priori*, we should say were necessary to form the good operator. He is constitutionally of strong nerve, and possesses remarkable coolness, presence of mind, and undaunted courage. He would dissect a living person if it were necessary, without a muscle of his face moving. It is indeed astonishing to witness with what perfect *non chalance* he commences the most formidable operations. He prepares his instruments, arranges them in due order, fixes the table in its proper position, with as much *sang froid* as a waiter at the London Tavern would manifest in preparing for a dinner-party. Nothing but the consciousness of being thoroughly master of what he is about, could enable him to do this. "I say, gentlemen," said Mr. Knox, one day to his class, "you would suppose, to see Liston operate, that he did so by instinct; but do not deceive yourselves, it did not come by intuition; it is only the result of a minute knowledge of anatomy, and long practice in handling the knife."

He had been much annoyed one day at the Royal Infirmary, owing to some altercation he had with Professor Syme; and, when in the act of getting into his carriage, his coachman said—"Where to, Sir?"—"Drive to the devil," exclaimed Liston—"Does his

majesty require an operation?" quietly asked the coachman.

Mr. Liston's great abilities as an anatomist soon attracted attention, and he became an assistant, and, subsequently, demonstrator to the celebrated Dr. Barclay, the author of the masterly works on "Life and Organization," and on "Muscular Motion." Dr. Barclay considered Liston's talents of a high order, and predicted his future success in life.

After Liston commenced practice, he distinguished himself by his skill in curing a case of disease of the arm, which had been under the care of the surgeons of the Royal Infirmary, and which they had dismissed as incurable. Liston took the case under his care, and succeeded in restoring the man's arm to perfect use. This patient Mr. Liston subsequently made his coachman.

Mr. Liston, during his residence at Edinburgh, was remarkable for his fondness for hunting. He never appeared in his element unless standing by the operating table, or when mounted, following the hounds. He was a perfect medical Nimrod. It is said that his passion for the sports of the field materially injured him in his profession.

In the year 1834, a high honour was conferred on Mr. Liston, by the council of the University College; he was requested to accept of the situation of operative surgeon to the University Hospital. At that time he had been nearly twenty years established in practice in the northern capital; and it required some little consideration before he finally concluded to take



a step which might materially affect his prospects for life. After consulting his friends, he accepted the proffered appointment, came to London, and was immediately installed into office. Prior to his leaving Edinburgh, a public meeting of his friends took place in the Hopetown Rooms, the Lord Provost in the chair, for the purpose of declaring their sentiments of regret at his departure from so favoured a field of his most useful and honoured labours. The meeting was most numerously attended. The *elite* of modern Athens honoured Mr. Liston by being present. Many speeches were delivered on the occasion.

Sir George Ballingall spoke most eloquently of Mr. Liston's eminent surgical and general abilities. Addressing the Lord Provost, he observed, "I have, my lord, been engaged for some thirty years in the study, in the practice, and in the teaching of my profession; and it has been my fortune to see it under a considerable variety of circumstances—in the dissecting-room and in the hospital—in the camp and in the field—at sea and on shore—at home and abroad—in Asia, in Africa, and in Europe. I mention these as circumstances calculated to give some little weight to my opinion, and to plead my apology for offering it: that deliberative opinion is, that I have never yet seen the man who might not covet—who might not be proud of Mr. Liston's talents, judgment, skill, self-possession, and dexterity as a surgeon."

Dr. Campbell, in addressing the same meeting, observed, that, "amidst the many great operators of

transcendent talents, whom I have seen, I must assign the palm of superiority to our gifted guest. So great, indeed, is the perfection to which he has attained in his art, that he would appear to have been destined by the hand of Nature for the exercise of it—which would lead us to suppose that a well-known axiom is not applicable to the poet alone, but also that *chirurgus nascitur, non fit*—a doctrine which, as applied to a practical art, I am aware will gain evidence with few, unless amongst the disciples of phrenology, who, perchance, may be able to reveal that secret cause which has raised Mr. Liston to so distinguished a pre-eminence amongst the great masters of his art.”

Another speaker, Mr. Robertson, makes the following observations highly honourable to Mr. Liston. “I have heard it said that his skill as a surgeon is equalled only by his caution; and, notwithstanding all the calumnies that have been uttered against him—and where is the man who is not subject to calumny?—I will say, that during the long series of years I have known him as a friend, I have had frequent opportunities of seeing him in all the relations of life,—as a husband—as a father—and as a son; and I appeal to that father, now present, when I say no man has surpassed him in those relations. But, if there be a tribunal still higher than that of the domestic affections, to which I could appeal, it is the tribunal before which the professors of the healing art may best be tried, and to that I appeal confidently,—I mean the chamber of the sick. And I will venture to

say that if his voice be somewhat harsh and discordant amid the annoyances of private life, it is music to the sick man's ear—that if his hand is hard as iron, and true as steel, in the theatre of operation, it is soft as down when applied to the throbbing pulse and aching brow. Let it not be said that any man can be truly great in that profession, if he is not equally endowed with those qualities which adorn the human character in private life.”

Like most men of genius and originality, Liston has his eccentricities and peculiarities. When in Edinburgh, his bluntness and apparent rudeness of manner made him many enemies, even among those who were willing to testify to his eminent surgical skill. Since his residence in London, he has become much improved in this respect, and he is now the favourite of all who know him, and who can make allowances for those infirmities of nature, which even the best of men sometimes exhibit.

It is amusing to see the care and attention which Mr. Liston pays to his surgical instruments. He is seldom seen without one of them in his hand, which if you do not admire, he expresses himself much offended. In his operations in private practice, he is careful to conceal, as much as possible, the sight of his instruments from the patient. A friend riding in the carriage with Mr. Liston, for the purpose of witnessing him perform a difficult operation, and not seeing any case of instruments, expressed his fear that the operator had forgotten his surgical implements. Liston smiled, and said that he had them



with him; and upon being asked where they were, he pointed to the sleeve of his coat, and observed, that he always carried them in that way, as it was important to keep them warm and comfortable.

Were Mr. Liston's skill as an operator tested by his abilities as a carver, he would, indeed, shine pre-eminently. To see him dissect a goose or a turkey at his own dinner table, is said to be a great curiosity. Without the aid of a fork, and simply with the knife, he carves the turkey in the most scientific manner, exciting the admiration of all who see him.

Who has not seen Liston's favourite cat, Tom? This animal is considered to be a unique specimen of the feline tribe; and so one would think, to see the passionate fondness which he manifests for it. This cat is always perched on Liston's shoulder, at breakfast, dinner, and tea, in his carriage, and out of his carriage. It is quite ludicrous to witness the devotion which the great operator exhibits towards his favourite. Liston is an early riser: not being able to devote his time to his favourite sport, hunting, he has for some time made a practice of rising by break of day, for the purpose of exercising himself in the art of rowing; and at Richmond he is often to be seen indulging in this amusement.

As an author, Mr. Liston is known for his valuable work, on "Practical Surgery," which is full of excellent information, conveyed in simple but lucid language. Since his connexion with the North London Hospital, he has been the means of simplifying the treatment of many surgical diseases. In his manage-

ment of ulcers and wounds, he dispenses with the various kinds of unctuous and greasy applications, which surgeons so commonly use, and in their place he has substituted simple water dressings, which are found to be much more serviceable, and to answer every purpose for which they are intended.

Mr. Liston's private practice is becoming extensive. He has started a most splendid equipage, a sure indication that he is taking that position among the operative surgeons of the metropolis, which his great talents entitle him to command.

MR. SAMUEL COOPER, the well known author of the "First Lines," and the "Surgical Dictionary," deserves a place among the eminent surgeons of the day. Having written two of the best elementary surgical works in the English language, his name has for years been as familiar as a household word to nearly every student. His dictionary has made him known in every part of the world; it is a work which no surgeon or physician can well be without.

Mr. S. Cooper studied under the first medical teachers of his day. He was eminent in early life for his assiduous application to the study of his profession. Having an intimate knowledge of foreign languages, he has become conversant with the writings of the most celebrated medical men of France and Germany, and has carried on a correspondence with the most illustrious scientific men on the continent.

As a surgeon, Mr. Cooper holds a high rank in England. He is much esteemed by all who are in-

timate with him, and who can appreciate the noble, kind, and generous qualities of his heart.

Mr. Cooper carries his mind in his visage; no one acquainted with physiognomy could be deceived in a knowledge of his character. His humane and benevolent qualities do not, however, interfere with the exercise of his professional duties; for when firmness, decision, and courage are necessary, Mr. Cooper can exercise them without any apparent difficulty.

We have often had the pleasure of seeing him perform the most difficult and dangerous operations: and we never yet saw him falter, or exhibit any indications of want of confidence in his own knowledge and skill.

We say so much, because we are fearful that a recent transaction may have had the effect of injuring him in the estimation of those who know nothing of Mr. Cooper, but from what they read in the Medical Journal which attacked his professional character. We have nothing to do with the motives of public journalists, and only testify to what we have seen with our own eyes, and what we know to be the sentiments of those best competent to estimate his abilities.

Mr. Samuel Cooper has now been connected, for some years, with the North London Hospital, and with the University College. In the former, he has acted as surgeon with credit to himself, and advantage to the Institution; and in the latter, he has, since the retirement of Sir Charles Bell, delivered the surgical lectures to a large and admiring class.



His style of lecturing is, perhaps, not so attractive as we could wish, but he fully compensates for any deficiency in oratorical display, by the soundness, the clearness, and excellence of his matter.

How extremely gratifying it is to the mind, to trace the career of a great man from boyhood to years of maturity—to follow him step by step as he travels over the rugged road of life, to sympathize with him in his difficulties, and to participate in the pleasure he experiences as he successfully contends with each obstacle which presents itself, until he obtains that reward which ever awaits the industrious, plodding, and persevering student—the approbation and admiration of the world, and above all, the approval of his own conscience.

“Few men,” says a writer sketching the character of SIR BENJAMIN BRODIE, “have launched their bark on the tempestuous ocean of busy life under more favourable auspices than him. Educated in an excellent professional school—that of the illustrious Hunter—with quick talent, untiring industry, and a mind comprehensive and well prepared—the *protégé*, moreover, of a man, who, whatever may be his foibles now, stood once at the very pinnacle of his profession, Sir B. Brodie entered upon the duties of his vocation with an ardour and devotion seldom surpassed.”

Sir B. Brodie, the son of the Rev. Peter Brodie, Rector of Winterslow, and Deputy Lieutenant of South Wilts, under whose fostering care those habits of study and persevering research were formed, which

have so much conduced to his son's subsequent success—instructed at home with his brothers, one of whom is an eminent member of the bar, and the other a no less eminent member of Parliament, Sir Benjamin received that sound education which not only fitted him for the more arduous pursuit of scientific knowledge, but has enabled him, with so much grace, to communicate the result of his researches to the world. Having selected the profession of physic, as the sphere of his future usefulness, the subject of this sketch was placed under the care of the late Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Thomas, the present president of the College of Surgeons, but at that time a teacher of anatomy at the Hunterian School, Great Windmill-street, where he acquired the taste for anatomy which none can doubt was the foundation of his present skill in surgery. In 1803 he entered St. George's, under Sir Everard Home, where he subsequently became first demonstrator, and then co-lecturer on anatomy, with Mr. Wilson. The next step in the promotion of this eminent surgeon took place in the year 1808, when he was appointed assistant surgeon to St. George's hospital, soon after which he commenced those lectures on surgery which have contributed so much to his fortune and fame.

The success of Sir Benjamin, thus early commenced, has continued to advance to the present hour. His reputation as a surgeon has been established in the estimation of his professional brethren, by his famous work on the "Diseases of the Joints," which appeared in the year 1818; and those who have had the privilege

of meeting him in consultation upon cases of articular disease, can testify to the consummate skill which he has manifested in their diagnosis and treatment. In the year 1819 Sir Benjamin was appointed professor of anatomy and surgery to the Royal College of Surgeons, which office he resigned in the year 1833, and in the year 1833 he was called in to attend his Majesty as serjeant-surgeon, upon which occasion the honour of baronetcy was conferred upon him.

There are few men in the profession at the present day, who have received so many solid proofs of public confidence as Sir Benjamin Brodie. His morning levee is attended by crowds of the lame and halt, waiting impatiently to tell their woes, and receive the benefit of his advice ; and so rapid is the process, that as each departs, his fee is tossed into a large arm-chair, which soon is made to groan under the weight of its precious burden.

In person Sir Benjamin is small, being under the medium height. His age is about fifty-six, but he is still in possession of strong health, and there is every reason to hope that he will long continue to enjoy the fruits of his well-earned reputation.

In introducing to our readers MR. WILLIAM LAWRENCE, we cannot help expressing how grateful and agreeable we feel the task to be, for we know that we shall have much to record, little to criticise, and we hope nothing of any importance to reprobate in his long and distinguished career.

When the historian has to draw a line of distinction



between a mass of good and evil, and still more when the latter preponderates, his task becomes one of a very difficult and disagreeable nature ; but in the life of a man of genius and a philosopher, an account of which we intend to submit to our readers, we have only to record talents of the highest kind, directed to the cultivation of the noblest of sciences, and encircled with a goodness of heart, and a steadiness of purpose, which never allowed them to be misapplied, and kept them continually advancing in the road to improvement.

The county of Gloucester has the honour of claiming William Lawrence as one of her sons. His father was a clergyman of celebrity, and his family very respectable. From his early infancy he gave proofs of a superior mind, and evinced a talent for the reception, and avidity in the acquirement, of knowledge, which have shone eminently conspicuous in his after life. These qualities his parents did not fail to perceive, and, accordingly, cultivated them to the best of their power, by affording him every facility in attaining what are generally supposed to be the necessary rudiments of science. He was placed at a public school, where he rapidly acquired an acquaintance with the classics, and all the elementary branches of knowledge. Here his superiority of mind was soon apparent to his masters, and to his youthful associates. Having concluded his preliminary studies, and his mind being well prepared and moulded for the acquirement of medical science, for which, from his boyhood, he showed an inclination, he was sent to the metropolis,

and was apprenticed to Mr. Abernethy, who was then at the zenith of his reputation, and, of course, entered as a pupil at St. Bartholomew's hospital. Lawrence now applied himself to the study of his profession, to which he had evinced so early a predilection, with a degree of enthusiasm and assiduity seldom exhibited by youths of his tender years. He, indeed, might truly have been considered an enthusiast in the pursuit of medical knowledge; and to this ardour, combined with natural genius, does he owe his success in life.

With a mind so well endowed and prepared as was Mr. Lawrence's, it is not surprising that he advanced so rapidly. Mr. Abernethy was endowed with no ordinary degree of discernment, and he soon discovered the genius of his pupil; and having paid great attention to him, directed his mind principally to the study of what he properly considered to be the basis of all sound surgical and physiological science, viz. anatomy.

Lawrence followed strictly the excellent advice of his preceptor. Every moment that he could spare from other pursuits was devoted to the attainment of a thorough knowledge of the structure of the human frame. He was distinguished among his fellow students in the dissecting room, for his unremitting devotedness to whatever he directed his mind to. The knife was seldom out of his hand; and so rapidly did he progress in a knowledge of anatomy, that many students who had been engaged in the study of their profession for many years before Lawrence commenced it, were glad, at the end of his first session, to avail

themselves of his superior knowledge, when they wished instruction on some difficult point connected with anatomy.

Lawrence, like all men of true genius, was most modest in his demeanour to all his fellow pupils, without any reference to their standing in the school, natural abilities, or age.

Mr. Lawrence may be said to have almost lived in the dissecting room. He has been often heard to say, that he never felt so truly happy, as when engaged in following the course of some minute nervous filament.

In the course of two or three years he became an able anatomist and physiologist; and so highly did Mr. Abernethy then esteem him, that he appointed him, at his then early age, demonstrator of anatomy. To this well-placed partiality, and to this appointment, he is indebted mainly for his subsequent eminence and success. The seeds of future distinction are more frequently sown in early life, than is generally imagined; and so it was with Lawrence, whose anatomical and physiological attainments procured for him an appointment, before the expiration of his apprenticeship, which is only the prelude to a surgeoncy at St. Bartholomew's hospital, one of the most important institutions of the kind in the metropolis, and which never fails to lead a man of talent to the highest reputation and public confidence.

The road to advancement being thus wide open to Mr. Lawrence, his ambition soon spurred him on to greater exertion. He continued to prosecute his ana-



tomical and surgical studies with extraordinary vigour. His demonstrations became already remarkable for the extent of knowledge they displayed, and for the clearness and elegance of language in which they were couched. His reputation among the pupils of the hospital was at this time very great; and his gentlemanly deportment and kindness of heart procured him their friendship, as his talents had already their admiration. As an anatomist, his knowledge soon became known to the profession; and, two years before the expiration of his apprenticeship, he was applied to by the conductors of *Rees's Encyclopedia* to furnish them with the anatomical and surgical articles for that great work, which he continued to give to the conclusion. These articles display a profound knowledge of anatomy, and an acquaintance with the literature of all countries and ages on the subject, which only could have been acquired at his early age by the most intense mental labour. They are decidedly the best articles on the subject in the English language. Mr. Lawrence continued as demonstrator of anatomy at St. Bartholomew's hospital for several years after the period of his apprenticeship. He then settled as surgeon in London.

Mr. Lawrence's first publication was a work on Ruptures, being the prize for the best essay on Hernia offered by the Royal College of Surgeons. This has always been considered a standard work on this part of surgery. It is well written, and embodies all the literature of the subject, interspersed with original observations and cases of his own. It has gone

through many editions, and has been translated into the German and French languages. It is also spoken well of, and much read by the American surgeons. This work bears upon its pages the impress of being written by a person whose mind is well stored with knowledge, and eminently qualified with judgment: it has been considered the text-book of all medical men, whether in their studies or their practice, and it will always hold a high place, wherever surgery is cultivated as a science.

The publication of this work raised the author very high in the estimation of professional men and the public. It established his reputation as a sound practical surgeon, and was the means of introducing him to the notice of practitioners to whom he had previously been a stranger.

Soon after the appearance of this work, a vacancy occurred in the office of assistant surgeon to St. Bartholomew's hospital, when Mr. Lawrence started as a candidate. By this time he was well known to the governors of the institution as a surgeon of great skill, and he was accordingly elected, almost unanimously, assistant surgeon to the hospital. About this time Mr. Saunders died, and Mr. Lawrence succeeded him as surgeon to the London Ophthalmic Institution.

Early in life he published an excellent translation of Blumenbach's "*Comparative Anatomy*," to which he has appended many highly valuable notes. This work had a most extensive sale, and has been held in high repute by every scientific man in the country.

He also published his celebrated "*Lectures on Comparative Anatomy, and the Zoology of Man,*" which work has been most severely handled, on account of certain opinions which he broached, which were considered to favour materialism.

In glancing over these lectures, we must confess that they do contain some startling doctrines, although we are as ready to allow that a construction different from that intended by Mr. Lawrence has been put upon what he has said.

The portion which appeared to excite the indignation of his opponents is the following. Mr. Lawrence observes, "Where then shall we find the proofs of the mind's independence on the bodily structure, which, like the corporeal frame, is infantile in the child, manly in the adult, sick and debilitated in disease, frenzied or melancholy in the madman, enfeebled in the decline of life, doting in decrepitude, and *annihilated by death.*" This passage occurs in his celebrated reply to Mr. Abernethy, who had denounced to his class the doctrines promulgated by Mr. Lawrence.

It appears from this passage, and others of the same nature, which are to be found in this lecture, that the writer evidently shows a distinction between the soul and mind; one he considers the result of organization, and the other existing independently of all matter. This inference we draw from the following quotation:—"The theological doctrine of the soul, and its separate existence, has nothing to do



with this physiological question, but rests on a species of proof altogether different.”\* Again he says, “ When we reflect that the immortality of the soul and a future state of rewards and punishments, were fully recognized in all the religions of the ancient world, except the Jewish ; and that they are equally in all those of modern times ;—when we consider that this belief prevailed universally in the vast and populous regions of the East, for ages and ages before the period to which our remotest annals extend, and that it is firmly rooted in countries and nations on which the sun of science has never yet shone ; the demonstration that the anatomical and physiological researches of the last half-century, have not the most remote connexion with, or imaginable influence on, the proof of these great truths, will be] completed, beyond the possibility of doubt and denial, in the estimation of every unprejudiced person.”†

An apologist for Mr. Lawrence, referring to the attack made upon him, writes thus :—“ The truth is, he, like other great men, has, in his progress, acquired the envy and malice of several individuals, who, destitute of talent and knowledge, have attempted to stain, with the most odious and malicious imputations, one of the fairest characters which this age has produced. We have known Mr. Lawrence in private as well as public life ; we are acquainted with many of his actions which were never intended to meet the public eye, and we can affirm, without the fear of

\* Page 8. † Ibid.

contradiction, from any but the basest of men, that a better, or more truly religious man, not in cant, but in deed, does not exist in this metropolis.

In treating of the subject of the Zoology of Man, it is impossible for any author not to give some of the opinions which have been advanced in regard to materialism; and, in doing this, although he has most distinctly dissented from them, attempts have been made to overwhelm him with the charge of being a materialist."

Few men have cultivated their minds more than Mr. Lawrence. In addition to an acquaintance with all the sciences, he adds an intimate knowledge of the European languages: and, in going the round of his hospital, the practice of which foreigners frequently attend, we have heard him address them in four or five languages.

Mr. L.'s high reputation for knowledge and acquirements, and for judgement and discrimination in public practice, and for experience derived from the many high situations he has held, combined with his gentlemanly and pleasing address, could not fail to render him a favourite with the public, and, in difficult cases, with his professional brethren. His situation of surgeon to the Ophthalmic Institution has given him much experience as an oculist. He was appointed Professor of Anatomy and Surgery to the Royal College of Surgeons; and he is a member of almost every learned and scientific body in Europe.

In practical surgery, Lawrence has introduced several improvements. He brought into notice and

use the silk ligature in tying arteries, and of making incisions for the cure of phlegmonous erysipelas. His treatment of sloughing syphilis, which has been termed the soothing plan, viz., by bleeding and opium, is considered a great improvement in medical surgery. He has considerable power as an operative-surgeon; few possessing more neatness, coolness, and dexterity in using the knife.

On the resignation of Mr. Abernethy, Mr. Lawrence was appointed surgeon to St. Bartholomew's hospital, a situation which is said to afford him an annual income of one thousand pounds. He was subsequently appointed lecturer, on the resignation of Abernethy.

His lectures on the Principles and Practice of Surgery, which were published in the volumes of "*The Lancet*," are distinguished for their elegant composition, and the valuable facts connected with, and lucid arrangements of the many subjects which they necessarily embrace.

The lecture-room is always crowded to suffocation, so popular is he among medical pupils, and so highly do they appreciate his genius and knowledge.

Mr. Lawrence does not read his lectures. He has before him short notes to which he occasionally refers.

In the year 1822, at the annual election of surgeon to Bridewell and Bethlem Hospitals, the governors, having taken umbrage at Mr. Lawrence's conduct as connected with the publication of the book previously



mentioned, were strongly inclined to discard him from an office which he had filled for some time with credit to himself, and benefit to the institution. An attempt was accordingly made to render him ineligible; but Mr. Waithman, in what the newspapers called, "a most able speech," told the governors that they ought to be ashamed of such a narrow and bigoted spirit; and the motion was lost by fifty-two to twenty-six. There being no other candidate of any note, Mr. Lawrence was elected as a matter of course. There was a little bit of ingenious by-play connected with this affair, which is not generally known. Previously to the election, Mr. Lawrence, well aware of the strong prejudice which existed against him, and naturally anxious to retain a situation, which, although honorary, was not without its benefits, wrote a letter to Sir Richard Carr Glyn, the president, which exhibits a different tone from his celebrated reply to Abernethy. In this letter Mr. Lawrence observes, that "Experience and reflection have only tended to convince me more strongly, that the publication of certain passages in these lectures was highly improper; to increase my regret at having sent them forth to the world; to make me satisfied with the measure of withdrawing them from public circulation; and, consequently, to resolve me, not only never to reprint them, but, also, never to publish anything more on similar subjects."

That a man should recant opinions which "experience and reflection" have proved to be untenable,

must be considered as highly meritorious, because it establishes that candour and regard for truth are eminent qualities in his disposition.

MR. JOSEPH CONSTANTINE CARPUE was one of the most successful lecturers on surgery and anatomy of his time. Had he received the reward due to his merit, he would years ago have been attached, officially, to the College of Surgeons. But, alas!

“How hard for real worth to gain its price!  
A man shall make his fortune in a trice,  
If blest with pliant, though but slender, sense,  
Feigned modesty, but real impudence.”

No man was so well calculated to educate the youth destined for the profession, as Mr. Carpue. He did not merely lecture, but he taught the students who placed themselves under his care. His sole object was to ground them well in a knowledge of anatomy, which he considered properly to be the basis of medical science. He was a great enthusiast in his profession. His plan of teaching was original and very successful. His aim was to make every student in his class, a demonstrator. He would describe the different portions of a bone, its processes and foramina, &c., and then he would, calling one of the class by name, request him to demonstrate the bone to the others. When he had finished, he would give it to another, and then to a third, fourth, fifth, until fourteen or fifteen students had demonstrated to

the class the same bone. In this way he attracted the attention of the students, and fixed permanently on the memory the most important facts connected with anatomy.

It will be recollected by his old pupils, that he used to have a temporal bone, *minus* the styloid process; and after enumerating the other processes, he would say, "the styloid process broken off." One of his class, on presenting himself for examination at the College of Surgeons, was asked to describe the temporal bone, which he did after the manner of Carpue, much to the amusement of the Court of Examiners. "The styloid process broken off!" said old Sir William Blizard, in astonishment; and when the student explained, the veteran surgeon laughed heartily at the joke.

It has often been observed that all the bones, skulls, and skeletons which Mr. Carpue had to demonstrate to his class, were the bones, skulls, and skeletons of his particular friends. "That skeleton, gentlemen," he would say, "was the skeleton of the prettiest girl I ever saw." Again, he was fond of relating the history of a skull he used to show to the class. He said it belonged to one of the greatest linguists of the day, a man who more freely indulged in "potations pottle deep" than was consistent with his health. Carpue was dining one day with him at Cambridge, when, perceiving the quantity of port and maderia which he was swallowing, he considered it his duty to caution his friend, and told him that he would kill himself, if he did not become more temperate in his



habits. "One day," said Carpue, "you will die of disease of the *dura mater*," (the membrane covering the brain). This prophecy appeared to have made a great impression on the professor's mind, for, five or six years afterwards, Carpue received a letter, in which it was stated that this gentleman was dead, and had left him twenty pounds in his will to examine his head, in order to discover whether the *dura mater* was affected. He did so, and found it as he predicted. A short period afterwards, the body of the gentleman, to his great surprise, was brought into his dissecting-room.

Mr. Carpue was connected for some years with the York Hospital, at Chelsea, established for the cure of contraction of the limbs. After resigning this situation, he visited the continent. He walked through France, Switzerland, and Italy. He attended, professionally, the Princess Amelia; and had the honour of teaching George the Fourth anatomy, of which science the king was particularly fond. He made himself known to the profession by his various useful publications. He introduced into this country the Indian operation for making a false nose. In 1818, he published an account of two successful operations which he had performed, by taking the skin from the forehead. He has also endeavoured to introduce into this country the high operation for stone; and he published a most valuable work on the subject, in which is detailed the history of the operation of lithotomy from the earliest period.

Mr. Carpue has a most venerable appearance. He

is most entertaining in conversation, possessing a vast fund of anecdote.

He married a lady belonging to the Roman Catholic church, by whom he has a large family of daughters, who are distinguished for their musical talents.

Mr. Carpue has been delivering lately in the provinces, lectures on popular anatomy, which were considered as most interesting and instructive. We are rather inclined to suppose that the active part taken by Mr. Carpue in the Westminster elections has injured him in a professional point of view. He is a staunch liberal in politics, and was at one period Sir F. Burdett's personal friend, and great political supporter; but Carpue is now heard feelingly to lament the baronet's change of opinions, which has severed a friendship of nearly twenty years standing.

MR. JAMES WARDROP, surgeon to the late King, holds a respectable position among the eminent living London surgeons.

A fortunate accident introduced him into notice in high quarters, shortly after his arrival in town. One of the Prince of Wales's favourite mares was seized with a violent attack of ophthalmia, which baffled the skill of the veterinary surgeons, and Lord Queensbury was commanded to consult the first surgeon-oculist in London. His lordship called upon his countryman, Mr. Wardrop, who at that period had the reputation of being a skilful oculist, as well as being well versed in the mysteries of the stable. The result is said to have justified the choice. Wardrop was eminently

successful, and, in requital for his skill, was advanced from the dignity of equestrian operator, to that of personal surgeon to the heir-apparent. The *éclat* attending this appointment secured to him an opportunity for the display of those abilities, which were well qualified to maintain him in his position.

It has been observed that a blunt address, a somewhat eccentric humour, a bluff freedom in speech, and disposition to call things by their right names, has tended much to his disadvantage.

In early life he devoted considerable attention to the "*Pathology of the Human Eye.*" In order to extend his knowledge, he visited the celebrated continental medical schools; and whilst at Vienna he gained the confidence and esteem of the celebrated Beer and Professor Scarpa.

Mr. Wardrop is the author of the article "Surgery," in the "*Encyclopædia Britannica*;" and has published an edition of the works of the late Dr. Baillie, to which he attached a valuable memoir. In conjunction with Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Wardrop delivered two courses of lectures on surgery, which the late Dr. Armstrong said were the best he had ever heard delivered.

Mr. Wardrop has devoted his attention to the subject of aneurism, and has published an elaborate work on the subject. He proposed, and carried into practice successfully, tying the artery beyond or on the distal side of the aneurismal tumour. This mode of operating has been followed by the late Dupuytren, in Paris, and Professor Mott, of New York. Mott



observes that this improvement "has conferred on Wardrop the highest honour and most lasting fame."

In personal appearance Mr. Wardrop is tall and well proportioned. His disposition is kind, although there is a considerable degree of *brusquerie* in his address. Mr. Wardrop, be believe, is about sixty years of age.

SIR CHARLES BELL ranks high not only as an eminently scientific, but also as a practical surgeon. He is a son of the Rev. John Bell, a Presbyterian minister, established in the neighbourhood of "Modern Athens." He was placed early in life under the medical tuition of his brother John, who held a very high rank as a surgeon. His education was, of course, superintended with the most affectionate zeal, by his brother who perceived in Charles, at this early age, the seeds of future eminence.

Prior to commencing his medical studies, Charles was placed in the High School of Edinburgh, where he remained until he was seventeen. At school he was remarkable for his assiduous attention to whatever he had to direct his mind. He advanced rapidly in a knowledge of classical literature, and paid considerable attention to mathematics, although at school he never distinguished himself for his great attainments in this branch of science. In after life he felt his deficiency, and was induced to devote his mind to the subject of mathematics, and he is now considered by good judges to be an excellent mathematician.

Sir Charles commenced his early medical studies

under the guidance of his brother John. During this time he paid considerable attention to the study of anatomy and physiology; and being a neat dissector, he was of essential service to his brother John, in assisting him in making his anatomical preparations.

Having finished his studies, Sir Charles was anxious to devote his attention almost exclusively to a particular branch of surgery, convinced that by so doing he should be in a fair road of obtaining that eminence which he was ambitious of acquiring. The brilliant career of Dr. W. Hunter induced Sir Charles to make up his mind to tread in his footsteps, by directing his genius to the practice of obstetric surgery. For this purpose he left Edinburgh, and arrived in London in 1803. Having been engaged in the practice of midwifery for two years, he was induced to relinquish this branch of surgery for the more congenial pursuits of anatomy and physiology. Soon after establishing himself in London, Bell formed a friendship with Mr. Lynn, surgeon of the Westminster Hospital, and who at that time had the largest surgical practice of any man in London. Through the kindness of his friend, Bell was allowed to be present at nearly all his public and private operations; and having a talent for drawing he took sketches of the various operations, which were pronounced to be superior to anything of the kind which had previously appeared. These were afterwards published, to which Bell attached his name. This was his first appearance as an author. The work was dedicated to his kind patron, Mr. Lynn. Soon after this Bell was associated in the Hunterian chair

with the late Mr. Wilson, a man distinguished for his minute and accurate knowledge of descriptive oratory. Whilst thus engaged in tuition, Mr. Bell had great opportunities afforded him, which he did not neglect, of completing his brother's work; and, accordingly, we find a third volume was soon afterwards published, on the Anatomy of the Brain and Nervous System. This volume proved as popular as its precursors, and for the same reasons; the former were highly accurate in the descriptions of the veins and arteries, and their several relations, and the last was equally exact as respects the distribution of the nerves.

Sir C. Bell was for some period professor of physiology to the London University, and surgeon to Middlesex Hospital. Owing to his great and justly eminent talents, he was offered the appointment of professor of surgery to the Edinburgh Royal College of Surgeons, which he accepted. He has greatly distinguished himself by his writings. His late work "On the Hand," which forms one of the Bridgewater Treatises, is a most masterly production, and places the name of the author in a very high position as a philosopher and an able reasoner.

MR. T. J. PETTIGREW is an eminent literary and scientific surgeon. He was for some time officially connected with Charing-cross hospital; but owing to a disagreement between himself and the other gentlemen connected with that institution he resigned his appointment. Mr. Pettigrew is quite an enthusiast.



in his profession; and although much of his time is devoted to literature, he is by no means inferior to his contemporaries in those qualifications which enter into the composition of a practical surgeon. His connexion with the Duke of Sussex has been of much service to him, in a professional point of view. His works on various scientific subjects place his name deservedly high among the medical literati of the day. We refer especially to his recent publication, "The Medical Portrait Gallery," not yet completed, which does great credit to his industry and talents. This work is patronized by the great body of the profession.

We have reason to believe that he is employed to write the medical portion of the "New General Biographical Dictionary," which is announced as in the course of publication, to be edited by the Rev. Mr. Rose, a gentleman of great talents and literary acquirements. If we should be right in our surmise, we would only say that the distinguished editor has exhibited great judgment in the selection he has made, and that Mr. Pettigrew will do ample justice to the portion of the work placed under his superintendence.

His able Life of the late Dr. Lettsom, his History of the Egyptian Mummies, and other works connected with general science and medicine, are too well known to the reading public to require to be more particularly described. Some years back, Mr. Pettigrew's converzationes were objects of great attraction in the metropolis. Dukes, Earls, Barons,

Judges, and Members of the House of Commons, and eminent scientific men, were to be seen gliding through his magnificent *suite* of apartments. Let us hope, that ere long those delightful meetings will be revived.

It was our intention to have given a particular account of the extraordinary career of MR. WAKLEY, the editor of the "Lancet," coroner for Middlesex, and M.P. for the metropolitan borough of Finsbury. Differing, as we essentially do on many points, from this gentleman, we think, notwithstanding, that he is entitled to be considered as having contributed greatly to the improvement of the science of medicine, by the publication of his journal.

An important and instructive lesson is also to be deduced from his history. It clearly demonstrates that in this country the road to fame and wealth is equally open to all; for, without the advantages of family connexions or the patronage of the great and powerful, Mr. Wakley, by his own unaided industry and native talents, has placed himself in an elevated position in society.

Having been for so many years a public journalist, he has necessarily exposed himself, in the discharge of his editorial duties, to the attacks of those opposed to him. To say that in some points his conduct, as a public man, has been occasionally open to objection, is but to say that he is human nature, and therefore cannot be expected to be exempt from its infirmities.

In parliament, Mr. Wakley has exhibited great

talent as a speaker, and his career has been marked by a spirit of consistency and independence well worthy of imitation.

PROFESSOR OWEN, the assistant conservator of the College of Surgeons, is a gentleman well known to the world, as a comparative anatomist. At an early period of his life he served as a midshipman in the navy, but taking a dislike to the service, he turned his attention to medicine, and subsequently to the study of comparative anatomy. In this branch of science, since the death of Cuvier, Professor Owen may be said to have no equal. Indeed, during the life-time of that celebrated philosopher, he was in the habit of frequent correspondence with him. He now lectures on comparative anatomy, both at the College, and the Royal Institution. Professor Owen is also a fellow of the Royal Society, and has all along taken a most active part in the promotion and management of the Zoological Society.

He is a tall, dark, middle-aged man. His unassuming and amiable manners have endeared him to a numerous circle of friends.

In the evidence given before a committee of the House of Commons on the subject of education, Professor Owen's talents were spoken very highly of by the eminent surgeons who were examined on that occasion. Mr. Guthrie observed, in speaking of the assistant conservator—"He has rendered himself one of the first persons in his own branch of science in the kingdom; and I am proud to say, that he has



been educated in the College of Surgeons, and that it is owing to us that there is such a man."

His lectures on comparative anatomy at the College of Surgeons are the considered most brilliant ever delivered in the metropolis. His style of lecturing is peculiarly clear, as is generally the case with all lecturers who are masters of the science which they teach to others.

Having been for so many years connected with the Hunterian Museum, he has made himself familiar with that splendid collection of everything that is curious, and his discourses are illustrated by specimens taken from the museum, which add greatly to the value and attraction of his lectures.

It was our purpose to have published sketches of many other gentlemen residing in the metropolis, eminent as scientific and practical surgeons; but after we had sent to press the greater portion of the second volume, we found, to our great regret, that we had not left ourselves sufficient room to do justice to the practitioners to whom we refer. We hope, therefore, our motives will not be misconstrued. Our object was to make no invidious distinctions, or to say anything which might be considered personally disagreeable to any member of the faculty.

Among the gentlemen of whom we had prepared biographical sketches are the following: Messrs Key, Morgan, White, Vincent, Andrews, Costello, Mayo, Arnott, Alcock, H. Thompson, Blizard Curling, Dermott, Tuson, Quain, &c. &c.

All these surgeons take a high professional rank in the metropolis; some as practical men, others as teachers, and some combining both qualifications.

MR. KEY is Sir A. Cooper's nephew, and is considered a most able surgeon and operator. He is attached to Guy's hospital.

MR. MORGAN stands high in character as a surgeon, and is connected with the same institution.

MESSRS. WHITE, VINCENT, ANDREWS, &c. are able men, and have considerable practice.

MR. COSTELLO has paid much attention to the operation of *lithotrity*, and is considered exceedingly expert in performing the operation.

MR. H. THOMPSON, although not a veteran in years, has given indications of great promise, and will one day hold an elevated rank as a London surgeon. He is connected with the Westminster hospital.

MR. STANLEY is an able anatomical lecturer connected with St. Bartholomew's hospital.

MR. DERMOTT belongs to the private teachers, and is most successful as an anatomical lecturer. Had circumstances operated favourably with this gentle-

man, he would have taken a high position in the medical world. He is a first-rate anatomist, and has published some able works and drawings.

MESSRS. H. MAYO, ALCOCK, ARNOTT, TUSON, ALEXANDER, J. BELL, CARTWRIGHT, &c. are all men of whom it would have given us much pleasure to have published sketches. In another work we hope, however, to do most ample justice to the learning and skill of these eminent surgeons.

In concluding these volumes we may observe, that justly famous as were those great men who shed lustre on the past ages of medical science—

“Lights of the world, and demi-gods of fame!”

incalculable as was the value of those discoveries with which they enriched and surprised their species, there is nothing in the present state of the profession which would prompt a belief that the spirit by which its former triumphs were accomplished is extinguished, or that the future will be adorned with names less illustrious, or discoveries less brilliant, than those recorded in the annals of the past.

The same wisdom, philosophical and ever-looking-for causes—the same enterprsie, which, never appalled by obstacles, pressed steadily forward in the cause of truth—the same industry, which held nothing done, whilst anything remained to do—yet survive; and



will, with the progress of science, and the improvement of art, sustain, in the estimation of Europe, the high reputation which at present attaches to the character of a BRITISH PHYSICIAN.

FINIS.

















